

'07 Council candidates unimpressive

EVERYONE READING THIS EDITORIAL IS QUALIFIED to run for Students' Council. The nomination deadline has passed, but with eight faculties having fewer candidates than seats, there will be by-elections come September, and there isn't a sole person on campus unqualified to be a part of them—at least, that's what the platforms of the current candidates indicate.

Of the 37 people running for a spot on Council next year, 17 of them neglected to post any semblance of a biography or platform on the SU's official elections website. In hindsight, this was probably a smart move, since by not declaring why they were worthy of our votes, they set a precedent for how they would approach their terms on Council and also refrained from coming off as ignorant—just like most of the people who bothered to write down their election promises.

With so few incumbents running for re-election, Council will be sorely lacking in experience come next year, but it's completely unencouraging to see how little the potential newcomers seem to know about the forum in University Hall. For example, Education candidate Hayley Shannon ponders, "How many students actually know what happens in the SU building?" Well Hayley, students queue to buy overpriced and unhealthy food, they use the computer labs in the basement, they buy books and U of A clothing at the bookstore—heck, they even make newspapers there. For student government purposes, however, I'd be more concerned about what happens in U-Hall.

At least Hayley's not alone in her naïveté, as Ag/For hopeful Jacqueline Geller notes, her faculty is small, but that "having a Students' Union Councillor for Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics would give our faculty a chance to get our name out to people who may not know who we are." Boy, it's terrific that you already have a seat then. In fact, you have two, though neither of them serve very well as PR boosters for your faculty, apparently.

Jesse Hahn, Bryant Lukes and Cody Lawrence were all criticized in their SU Executive campaigns for having little knowledge about how the organization works. As such, it's nice to see the trio taking that advice and running for Council as Arts reps; unfortunately, neither Hahn nor Lawrence even bothered to submit a platform, and Lukes' is filled with flaws. His main rationale for wanting to be on Council isn't a desire to serve students, but rather to push an agenda based on his personal beliefs. Then again, at least his platform encourages creativity—he cites how his mother "forced me either to take music class or make a friend." Hopefully she isn't forcing him to run for Council as well.

Joining Lukes in the push for environmental reform in the SU is fellow Arts candidate Brett Grierson, who wants high-powered hand dryers to replace all those paper towels. Of course, those things have their downside as well: they're strong enough to take all the hair off your body. And in an apparent attempt to change Council's role from governing to that of talent agent, Grierson believes that "the University of Alberta needs to do more to promote our student artists, on campus and off." However, this is an issue Council would have very little control over. The only things they could do would be showcase more campus talent in their buildings—it would be a waste of lobbying time to pressure the University in this matter.

The rest of the candidates either make vague promises to try hard and listen to students, or consist of a flock of ruminant quadrupeds from Lister following a shepherd named Michael to the SU—all while making the exact same campaign promises he won on. So it's seriously time for you to run for Students' Council next year. It doesn't matter how bad you'd be at the position—that sure didn't stop this year's batch.

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor



CONAL PIERSE

LETTERS

Council breakup just sour grapes

In response to Ross Prusakowski's opinion article (re: "It's over between us, Council," 20 March) where he states that "councillors will always want have their cake and eat it too," I just wanted to mention that not only is this grammatically unsound, but is also extremely untrue.

There are numerous councillors this year that are in favour of making changes to the Powerplant, altering fee distribution and removing [student councillors'] pay altogether. To claim that none of the candidates speak to their respective fellow faculty constituents is so far from the truth it begs to question [sic] where these facts are coming from.

Everyone that I have met in both the Arts and Sciences [election] races alone are well know[n], have spoken heavily on other issues within their departments in the past, and are extremely vocal with students and their concerns. Which is why they will each be voted to their respected positions on Thursday and Friday.

People need to care about these elections. The individuals running now are not those who have run in the past. From what has been seen in the SU elections and how many of those same candidates are running now goes to show the dedication that these individuals have. Based on that, I seriously doubt they are running for these positions simply to line their wallets.

CODY LAWRENCE
Arts II

Put the 'Plant to rest

I read the article "Hookah plan goes up in smoke" (15 March) and as much as I could stomach the other articles, all the time hoping it was some kind of stupid joke. Why does everyone seem surprised that this idea failed? It should never have been brought up. It has to be the dumbest idea that I have heard in a long time.

The SU's [idea of] promoting smoking, even if it is not tobacco, is ridiculous. Forget this—we could probably start selling crack, heroin or meth. That's where the money is, I hear, and not dried fruit. Or was the plan opium? That idea has a nice ring to it. Powerplant: Bar and Opium Den.

Here is a good money saving plan for the 'Plant: close it down! I cannot believe I have put up with this kind of stupidity for four years. If these SU leaders are as good as we can get, maybe we need to scrap the SU too, and that would save every student a lot of money. And why does the Gateway seem to be defending this idea? Especially in an edition where you give See and Vue a sack-beating for being biased and promoting agendas.

JOHN BYRON
Arts IV

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Pembinites a lawless bunch in need of supervision

I read with interest the article in last week's Gateway entitled "Why is a Pembinite?" which seems to have been intended as a complaint against the Pembina Hall regulations.

Even had the author not told us so herself, it was quite obvious that she was of the Frosh—for it is only a new student who could fail to realize the usefulness, nay necessity, of strict rules for the women students in residence.

Aside from the desirability of keeping a close supervision over the social affairs of all Pembinites, there is another aspect which seems to me worth noting. The University is a public institution; the eyes of many, especially of the parents of the students, are oft turning to it.

I think, therefore, that even if supervision were unnecessary for the students, it should be maintained for the sake of presenting a conventional appearance to the parents and the public.

But strict regulations are necessary. Many of the Freshettes in residence are away from home for the first time in their lives. And as for the upperclass women, continued freedom from parental control quite reasonably often leads to irresponsibility and individualistic notions.

The Pembina regulation making overtown public dances out-of-bounds has often been criticized. "It seems so unfair to permit non-resident women to go where they please while restricting the pleasures of the residents," say some. It is doubtful whether public dances are wholesome places for any university women, but at least overtown coeds have their mothers to suggest that idea to them.

Lastly, it is considered by many advisable to regulate the behaviour of Pembinites out of regard for the desirability of their occasional indulgence in study. Men students in residence are rarely known to take advantage of their freedom to dodge studying. Most of them have the high standards of professional life and the high cost of supporting a help meet continually before their eyes as figurative spurs to urge them on in the gentle habit of plugging. Hardly so with the women.

I am inclined to think that many other reasons could also be found in support of the strict regulations which your contributor of last issue so indignantly resents.

"MLLE CYNIC"
11 November 1926

Letters from the Archives is a semi-regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters that we feel are of particular importance—or are just really hilarious.

Now you can check out all the old-timey fun for yourself! Just go to thegatewayonline.ca and follow the links to the Gateway's digital archives—now with most years from 1913 on..

Major in Mixology no minor feat



ELIZABETH
MCMILLAN

“How many people do you know who’ve had run-ins with the law, lost hours of their life to hangovers, had unprotected sex or gotten injured by unexplained circumstances? This isn’t normal weekend behaviour in the real world. Lucky for us, that elusive reality usually doesn’t hit until a few years after graduation.”

For the past five years, I have drank excessively at least once a week. Before reaching the legal drinking age, I had systematically worked my way through Mike’s Hard Lemonade, Southern Comfort and anything involving orange juice. After a love affair with tequila, I lost my ability to swallow a shot. I’ve been hospitalized once, taken home by the police and made plenty of bad life choices. But among university students, I’m not exceptional, or even noteworthy. In fact, I’m relatively well-behaved.

My undergraduate career was spent at a university where you could get \$2 beer or highballs every day of the week. Monday was the only off-night—unless there was something to celebrate. I drank out of Tupperware tubs, scooped Jello shooters from the bowl and produced empty two-sixers on a regular basis. I could funnel like a pro and kept ibuprofen in my purse. Luckily, I had a strong stomach and was able to balance my lifestyle with a high GPA. I had the time of my life. Instead of being questioned for going out at least twice a week, I was commended for being able to do it all.

Passing out, blacking out and waking up with someone unexpected are considered rites of passage in the life of an undergrad. Not every student goes through their

degree mixing schoolwork with keg stands and shotgunning, but plenty do. According to a 2004 Canadian Campus Survey funded by the Canadian Institute of Health Research, 85.7 per cent of students polled had consumed alcohol in the past year; 77.1 per cent had drank in the past month; 16.1 per cent of participants (representing 46 different universities from across Canada) reported frequent heavy drinking.

On average, students who had consumed alcohol within the past month drank on average 1.3 times a week for a total of 6.4 drinks. Think a six-pack during the hockey game, four times a month. In my warped frame of reference, I would say that involves an incredible amount of self-restraint and an active sober social life. Binge drinking—five drinks in one sitting for a man and four for a woman—simply isn’t something to raise an eyebrow at when you’re in university. Just call it the usual Thursday night at Garneau Pub.

How many people do you know who’ve had run-ins with the law, lost hours of their life to hangovers, had unprotected sex or gotten injured by unexplained circumstances? This isn’t normal weekend behaviour in the real world. Lucky for us, that elusive reality usually doesn’t hit until a few years after graduation. By spending years in

an environment where it’s commonplace to find at least one friend drunk on any given night, we’re conditioned to think that what everyone else would consider unhealthy is just a part of life. Addiction seems completely detached from our party-oriented lifestyles. But the reality is that while most students may remain unaffected, the beer-guzzling student lifestyle stumbles a risky line between youthful indiscretion and adult addiction.

One doctor at the U of A Health Centre explained to me recently that the line between frequent drinking and alcoholism is difficult to gauge, and noted that many students may have a problem that isn’t acknowledged. She suggested that students can drink excessive amounts of alcohol without it ever interfering with their lifestyles, as alcoholism often isn’t identified until it affects one’s day-to-day life. After all, a greasy breakfast can sustain just about anyone long enough to make it through a couple hour-long lectures before heading back to bed. We don’t live a nine-to-five existence, and we don’t apply the same standards of behaviour.

But what happens after the party ends? Do we all sober up and start acting like responsible citizens? Develop a taste for classy dinner parties and red wine? I hope so—cheap draught leaves a killer headache.

Truth more retarded than fiction

These recent news gems have got me pulling out whoever’s hair I can find



CONAL
PIERSE

In the past couple of weeks there’s been a large amount of what I could call “stupid shit” cropping up in the news. I’m not sure if it’s just a slow news month or a result of fluoridation of our water supplies, but the following news stories have dumbfounded me with their sheer stupidity.

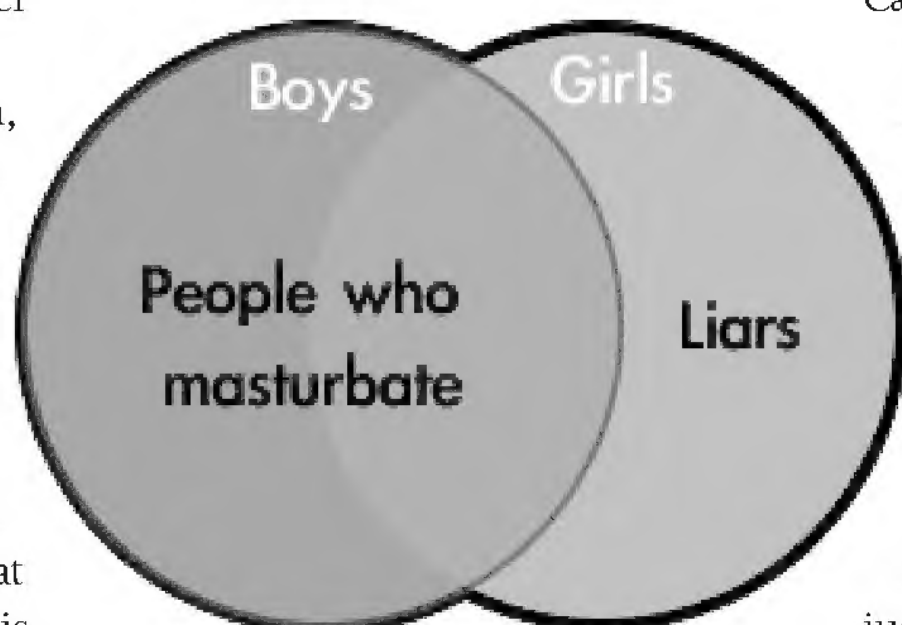
Recently, the President of Gambia, Yahya Jammeh, announced to foreign diplomats that he has discovered a cure for AIDS. Initially, this sounded like wonderful news, because really, who doesn’t want to cure AIDS? But it’s when you get to the part about how his special concoction of seven herbs and spices is a miracle cure that was revealed to him in a dream by his ancestors that you start to realize that maybe he just got stoned and fell asleep during a KFC commercial. This sounds about as effective a treatment as sharing a water bottle with Magic Johnson.

Now, this wouldn’t be a problem if he were just some crazy, toothless hermit trying to sell you anti-cancer pills that look suspiciously like chicklets. However, the fact is that he’s the fucking President, and as such, he should have more sense than to encourage his people to stop taking their proper medications in favour of Uncle Jammeh’s AIDS-fighting syrup

served over pancakes.

In British news, a recent study has shown that the rising rates of childhood obesity are, in part, due to a failure of parents to recognize when their children are obese. You might attribute this to the fact that parents may not feel comfortable judging their children, but in reality, this is a direct result of how overprotective parents have become. Children no longer walk to school out of fear of kidnappers and pedophiles, but I say that running from a child molester burns calories, so why not give it a shot?

Instead, by meddling in playground



affairs, these well-intentioned parents are effectively removing the fat child’s only natural predator: the bully. The role of the playground bully is to tell your child the things that you love them too much to say—things like, “nice haircut jackass” or “you get picked last because you don’t fit in socially.”

This whole idea that children need to be bubble-wrapped and labelled fragile is complete and utter bullshit. Just because another child thought it was funny to play keep away with your kid’s glasses doesn’t mean they’re

eventually going to crush him with a giant rock if left unchecked.

Finally, not to be outdone, our very own University of Alberta has decided to jump on the stupid train. Let me first say that I’m a fan of research performed solely for the sake of knowledge—if you want to study the colour preferences of turtles, by all means, go right ahead. However, this next study crosses the line into true absurdity. According to the research of one Sonya Thompson, more than one-third of 13-year-old boys in Alberta have viewed Internet pornography. This is about as shocking as being tricked into eating I Can’t Believe It’s Not Butter.

The worst part about this debacle is how offended and frightened parents are pretending to be, calling schools and wondering what they should do. The truth is there’s nothing that can be done aside from disabling your Internet connection, and that just means your son will have to resort to paying a hobo to buy him porn just like his father before him.

Any father who’s going along with this needs to stop lying to his wife, and the mothers out there who think that their little Jimmy couldn’t possibly be one of those dirty perverts needs to realize that the reason tissue paper is so scarce around the house isn’t due to it being allergy season.

Personally, I’m really looking forward to the results of a follow up study on the masturbatory habits of teenage boys. They can be conveniently presented as a Venn diagram that consists of a solid circle labelled “boys who masturbate.”

THURSDAYS

UNION 25¢

LO-BALL NIGHT

FRIDAYS

Ladies Night

SATURDAYS

TA SATURDAYS

ROLL IN

ROCK OUT

AT

UNION HALL

Argyll & 99 Street · 702-2582
unionhall.ca

Paul Lorieau's University Optical



**Free
vision test**
with purchase of lenses
or complete eyeglasses

4 3 3 - 5 5 0 0

Conveniently located at 11170-82 Ave Edmonton AB T6G 2L8



SUBtitles

Main Floor SUB Regular Hours: Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm
ph: 492 – 9744 Saturday 11am – 4pm

used textbooks and much more...

Buy, Sell or Consign Texts • UofA Crested Clothing & Merchandise
• Framing • Custom Screen Printing and Embroidery

BUY, SELL OR CONSIGN TEXTS

{other services include} • **UofA CRESTED
CLOTHING AND
MERCHANDISE**

• **FRAMING**

• **CUSTOM SCREEN
PRINTING AND
EMBROIDERY**



From anywhere... to anyone

for further information, visit www.su.ualberta.ca

Don't I know you from somewhere?

Oh yeah, it was that time when you were crying about getting your arms and legs chopped off. Wimp.



Catch up with friends you never knew you had—come to Gateway Opinion meetings, Thursdays at 4pm in SUB 3-04.

opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca

GATEWAY OPINION

Not jumping straight into lightsabres and getting all of our appendages cut off since 1910

'Canada's Next Great Prime Minister' would be its first



PATRICK ROSS

As of 18 March, 2007, Joseph Lavoie has some big shoes to fill. Winner of CBC's *The Next Great Prime Minister* reality program—think of it as a political *Canadian Idol*, only with Brian Mulroney instead of Ben—Lavoie has certainly assumed some very lofty expectations. This show is somewhat of a paradox, however, because the sad truth is that if Lavoie meets these expectations, he won't be Canada's next great Prime Minister—he'll be Canada's *first* great Prime Minister.

To accept any of Canada's prime ministers as great, one would have to redefine the criteria for greatness. While many people would define greatness differently, a safe description of a great leader is that of an individual who had a vision for what he or she wanted and saw it through to fruition. While many of Canada's past PMs may have flirted with greatness on account of their accomplishments, rarely has any one of them offered Canadians an inspiring vision—and even when they have, they've seldom accomplished it.

This claim will seem like utter blasphemy to more generous observers. These people will likely propose the same predictable candidates that always get hauled out in such debates: John A MacDonald, Wilfred Laurier, Lester B Pearson, Pierre Trudeau, John

Diefenbaker. Of all our past PMs, these five are the ones who offered Canadians an ambitious vision. Unfortunately, all five of them fell well short of actually realizing their visions. Of course, none of these individuals failed completely. MacDonald imagined a Canada spanning from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific—he accomplished this. Laurier and Diefenbaker both envisioned a more tolerant Canada.

Aside from the exception of the short-lived dream that was Trudeaumania, Canadian politicians tend to be met with an almost pathological indifference.

While Canada's past treatment of various minorities has been far from perfect, Diefenbaker's Bill of Rights has helped ensure legal equality for all Canadians. Pearson envisaged Canada as an international leader, particularly within the United Nations. For his part, Pierre Trudeau enshrined the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as law.

But of these men were entirely successful. MacDonald hoped to build Canada as a united British state. Instead, Canada has constantly dealt with challenges to its unity—particularly between English and French Canada. Laurier's belief in Canadian dominance of the 20th century never came to pass. Pearson's agenda for Canada as

an international leader has ultimately been undermined by an ineffective UN. Diefenbaker never saw his vision of Northern development fully accomplished. Trudeau's promise of a just society was diluted by a continually questionable human rights record.

Unfortunately for Lavoie, the distinction of "Canada's next great Prime Minister" bears the marks of being judged by Mulroney, John Turner, Kim Campbell and Joe Clark. To describe any of these individuals as having been great prime ministers would be a stretch, to say the least. Two of them were not even elected as PMs.

But this motley crew is far from alone in that regard. Sadly, most of our political leaders simply fail to inspire us. Aside from the exception of the short-lived dream that was Trudeaumania, Canadian politicians tend to be met with an almost pathological indifference. So while some Canadians compare the current Stephen Harper versus Stéphane Dion faceoff as the second-coming of the Diefenbaker versus Pearson showdown, many Canadians will likely be more enthralled with a plethora of disturbingly pointless celebrity scandals.

In a sense, this renders Canada itself a bit of a paradox. The world has consistently recognized Canada as one of the world's best societies. Yet, whatever greatness Canada has accomplished, it has done so largely without the benefit of great leadership. In this light, perhaps more credit is due to the hard work and dedication of the Canadians who have made this country what it is than to the leaders who all too often claim credit for the accomplishments of the people they sought to lead.

Anonymity Wikipedia's fatal flaw



COLIN KEIGHER

"Jordan was interviewed on behalf of Wikipedia by New Yorker magazine in July 2006 in an article on the website. But in last month's edition of the same publication, he was revealed not to be a professor with two PhDs, but rather a 24-year old college dropout from Kentucky."

It's brought together laymen and academics alike, and, in theory anyway, will eventually document everything and anything that can be documented. However, Wikipedia suffers the same problem that the rest of the Internet experiences, which is that there's no way to verify its users' identities. Since it's "the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit," a user can choose to edit anonymously—only revealing their computer's Internet address—or they can choose to register a pseudonym.

Such was the case of one Ryan "Essjay" Jordan, who registered an account on Wikipedia in 2005. Jordan claimed he had four degrees—including two doctorates—and a professorship at a private university. Over time, Jordan used these claimed credentials to win over arguments in the various discussion pages, eventually becoming an administrator and a member of Wikipedia's arbitration board.

Jordan was interviewed on behalf of Wikipedia by the *New Yorker* magazine in July 2006 in an article on the website. But in last month's edition of the same publication, he was revealed not to be a professor

with two PhDs, but rather a 24-year old college dropout from Kentucky. This came to light in part due to his getting hired by Wikia—a for-profit Wikipedia spin-off—and his attempt at wiping the slate clean after editing his own profile on the website revealed his full identity.

Jordan said that he lied to protect himself in his role as administrator, and that he had afterward apologized to Wikipedia owner and co-founder Jimmy Wales. Wales initially accepted the apology and didn't pursue any disciplinary action, but due to heavy pressure from various editors, "Essjay" was eventually removed.

What makes this case so damning to Wikipedia's reputation isn't the fact that Jordan climbed up the ranks of the site's editing hierarchy, but the fact that he used his falsified degrees to further his credibility. Because of his bogus credentials, he was a dream candidate to further push the legitimacy of the encyclopedia—but with the revelation of his true identity, all he's done is make the collaboration less credible.

This isn't to say that what's written on Wikipedia by any anonymous user

is without foundation. The website's policy dictates that everything must be sourced, but it's harder to tell if the writers themselves had the credentials to back up their claims.

Nobody needs to have a degree to write an article on something as complex as Hylopetes—a type of squirrel—or as something as common as toothpaste, as provided either is properly sourced, it will be deemed factual.

However, if one is going to claim that they have certain credentials and if the website is going to advance someone based on that, the credentials themselves should certainly be backed up.

On the horizon is a new online encyclopedia called "Citizendium." While the website makes claims of its larger competitor not being neutral on issues such as government and religion, it does require that any individual registering provides their real name and verification of their credentials. With this, Wikipedia may want to take a page from this expert-written spinoff (started by Wikipedia co-founder Larry Sanger) to further prevent such an issue from occurring again.

Chiquita bananas less appealing

They've been convicted of paying off a bunch of guerrilla groups in Colombia, but Chiquita's executives have somehow managed to slip out of jail time



ALEJANDRO
PACHON

Think about how many bananas there are in the world. Come on, make an estimate. It's hard, I know. Now guess where those bananas come from? No less than 83 per cent of all bananas for export are grown on large- and medium-scale plantations in Latin America. And who controls that huge banana market? Five corporate giants: Chiquita (25 per cent), Dole (25 per cent), Del Monte (15 per cent), Noboa (11 per cent) and Fyffes (8 per cent). The rest of the world's bananas come from small farms and minor distributors.

But this isn't an article about the banana market—this is an article about a certain banana republic. On 14 March, Chiquita Brands International Inc (a major supplier of bananas through Europe and North America) plead guilty to federal charges in the US for paying paramilitary groups in Colombia and agreed to a \$25 million settlement.

Let me begin by saying that I think statements linking multinationals with human-rights abuses around the world are often alarmist and emotional—such accusations simply hide an anti-corporate agenda. Consequently, I decided to find the

court documents and form my own opinion. Going over those documents, I learned that the decision came after a lengthy Justice Department investigation. The charge against Chiquita was “engaging in transactions with terrorist organizations.” Sounds pretty serious—I wonder how many people will end up in jail?

But I kept on reading. Chiquita reported \$2.6 billion in revenue for 2003; Banadex, its subsidiary in Colombia that was found guilty of the payments, was Chiquita's most profitable banana-producing operation. Chiquita began paying right-wing paramilitary forces of the United Self Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) after a meeting in 1997, and made over 100 payments until June 2004 totaling over US \$1.7 million.

The Company claimed that it had also paid the guerrillas before: these payments to the paramilitaries were reviewed and approved by high-ranking officers at the Cincinnati headquarters who concealed the payments in company books.

Chiquita then sold its Colombian banana operations in June 2004, and in February 2007 the company announced that it had set aside \$25 million to resolve the dispute. In the court documents there are no names; in fact, I read that none of Chiquita's executives were even charged individually. That's right: even though they “engage in transactions with terrorist organizations” and alter the company books, they only get slapped with a ridiculous fine—

\$25 million for seven years—when in a single year they have \$2.6 billion in revenue.

What's more, the money from the fine will not even go to the victims: it's a fine paid to the US federal government. When representatives of the company said that the fine won't affect their transactions, they weren't kidding.

Why is it that nobody is going to jail here? Could this have anything to do with the fact that Chiquita owner Carl Lindner is a big contributor to the campaigns of both US Democrats and Republicans? Lindner controls 42 per cent of the banana company; according to Forbes he's the 133rd-richest man on earth.

Lindner is also a close ally of George Bush and was Chair of the Board for Chiquita Brands International when the company was paying the paramilitaries. In other words, definitely not the kind of person who does jail time.

I don't know whether to laugh or to swear when I go to Chiquita's website and read that “corporate responsibility at Chiquita is an integral part of our global business strategy.” We need to seriously condemn the unethical practices of multinationals and their impact on those devastating, decades-long wars—Chiquita is, after all, just one of many corporations around the world with ties to paramilitary groups in Colombia and abroad.

Unfortunately, it's easy for us in North America to ignore what goes on in those distant banana republics.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: JOSH NAULT

PUT YOUR BANANA WHERE I CAN SEE IT Chiquita has been linked to guerrilla violence in Colombia. There goes your guilt-free source of potassium.

School of Business

MACEWAN

think Career

Turn your university credits into a career.

Whether you're wrapping up your first or your final year, MacEwan can turn those credits into a career in less than a year.

Effective communication is the backbone of any business in any industry. Public relations professionals are in high demand, and employers know the quality of a MacEwan PR grad.

This career diploma is a 10-month program that requires as few as 30 previous post-secondary credits – with at least one English course. The program includes two months on-the-job experience, you can complete it on a full or part-time basis.

For more information, visit www.MacEwan.ca/pr, or attend an upcoming information session:

Monday, March 26, 4 pm, Rm 5-251
City Centre Campus, 10700 – 104 Avenue
Call Barb Martin at 497-5389 for details.



www.MacEwan.ca

FINAL WEEKEND

SNOW VALLEY
CLOSES FOR THE
SEASON
MARCH 30



FREE AREA PASS

ON SAT., MARCH 24 & SUN., MARCH 25
TAKE THE SNOW VALLEY ETS BUS,
PRESENT YOUR VALID ONE CARD STUDENT
ID AND BUS #599 TRANSFER SLIP TO
RECEIVE A FREE AREA PASS WHEN YOU
PURCHASE AN AREA PASS OF EQUAL OR
GREATER VALUE. (NOTE: NOT VALID IN CONJUNCTION WITH
OTHER OFFERS. AREA PASS MUST BE FOR THE SAME DAY)

BUS INFO:

SNOW VALLEY ETS BUS #599
DEPARTS FROM SOUTHGATE CENTRE
EVERY 30 MINUTES.
FROM THE UNIVERSITY TAKE THE #6
TO SOUTHGATE, TRANSFER TO #599



snow
valley
EDMONTON

780.434.3991
119 STREET OFF THE WHITEMUD
WWW.SNOWVALLEY.AB.CA



THE CITY OF
Edmonton



Turning Japanese

Teaching English Overseas

建玉神社祕地
戸部石筆春沫断崖
絶壁人難攀
峯秀神渺

Written by Alex Deacon
Photos by Dan Lazin

I graduated from the University of Alberta in May 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Psychology. Not ready for the real world of careers, I decided to seek adventure by travelling abroad to teach English. On 5 September, 2006 I waved goodbye to family and friends as I boarded a plane in Edmonton to Vancouver, and then from Vancouver to Japan, where I've been teaching English as a foreign language for the past six months.

Seeing Sumo wrestling on TV didn't prepare me for the real thing. Asashoryu Akinori, Mongolian by birth and the current grand champion, enchants the crowd. At 148kg, he's slightly smaller than most of his opponents. Before the bout, he slowly raises and then stomps each foot once, and gives two enormous claps of his hands to thunderous applause. As the two adversaries square off, dead silence falls over the spectators. The tension is palpable. Then the grand champion touches both fists to the ground and the whole stadium erupts. The two enormous men charge toward each other with remarkable agility, and there's a collective intake of breath as the two combatants' heads crash together. After all the fury, Asashoryu tosses his foe out of the ring with an almost-graceful ease. The crowd loses control—Asashoryu has secured his title.

In November, Fukuoka city, on the southern-most island of Japan, is home to a month-long sumo-wrestling tournament. It's a thrilling taste of traditional Japanese culture—a glimpse into the past, which is contrasted markedly with the city's neon signs, Starbucks coffee shops and ubiquitous vending machines. The Sumo wrestlers wander around Fukuoka in traditional kimonos, and the scent of sandalwood perfume, which they treat their hair with, lingers in the air as they walk by. Seeing them casually stroll through the city adds to another quirk to life in Japan that make the whole experience a little surreal.

The arrival of the Sumo wrestlers also means that I'm not always the tallest person in the train station. Standing 6'4", I generally stick out of a crowd in Canada, but in Japan I'm a giant. Even though I'm in a big, cosmopolitan city of about 1.5 million people, curious eyes are constantly pointed in my direction. I learned the Japanese word for tall (*takaii*) after about two weeks of living here, and since then I hear it on a daily basis, whispered amongst friends as I walk onto trains and out of elevators.

I will never fit in here. This became a fundamental truth the first time I went to a traditional Japanese hot spring, or *onsen*, at the recommendation of some of my students. When I was in elementary school I had a reoccurring nightmare that involved solving particularly hard math questions on the board in front of my peers. Night after night in my dreams, I'd shuffle up to the blackboard, only to realize that I was completely naked, to the great mirth of my classmates. After what seemed like an eternity I would give a violent start, and wake up in a cold sweat, mercifully ending my dilemma.

Despite the omen-like qualities of these dreams, I did decide to try an *onsen*, to see what all the fuss was about, and whether it was as relaxing as everyone proclaimed. As I lay soaking in uncomfortably hot water, completely naked, I was fully cognizant of the fact that everyone was staring at the enormous (no, not like that) foreigner, pinching himself as if he wanted to wake from a bad dream.



Teaching English as a foreign language

After four years of university, this is what I wanted: something completely different before I settle down and think about the inescapable career or family that will one day be part of my life. And after six months living and working in the city of Fukuoka, I’ve come to realize that teaching English is a pretty decent job, and the opportunities are endless. I’ve been learning much more than I’ve been teaching; I’ve moved to another country, I’m trying to learn another language and culture, meeting new people, doing new things and making a little money in the process.

English has become the most widely spoken language in the world, and is used to some extent by over one billion people. English teachers are highly sought after in many countries, and it’s possible to find jobs almost any continent in the world. Armed with a degree, the sheer good fortune of being a native English-speaker, and a Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) certificate, foreign countries seem a lot less far away.

I hit on the idea during an anxiety-ridden third-year winter semester. Attending well-intentioned Career and Placement Services’ seminars for employment opportunities for Arts students and History majors proved disheartening at best, and depressing at worst.

Teaching English seemed like a convenient way to fund my ambitions of seeing more of the world before settling into a career.

In January 2006, in my fourth year of university, I completed a 60-hour TEFL certification course. It comprised of three weekends in meeting room B of the luxurious downtown Comfort Inn. The course itself was fairly pricey—I shelled out about a grand for it. But it covered a wide array of topics that went well beyond lesson-planning and grammar. We discussed everything from the nitty-gritty aspects of working-visa applications and wise packing, to dealing with culture shock and homesickness.

Many jobs teaching English abroad require either a bachelor’s degree or a 100-hour TEFL certification. In the end, I could have gotten away without completing the course. The company I work with provides its own training and materials. But by giving an introduction to grammatical issues, lesson-planning, and teaching methods, the TEFL course did open many options up for me, as many employers require a bachelors’ degree and a TEFL certification, it can be a worthwhile decision.

From completing the course at the end of January, I spent my last semester in the dark and cold Edmonton winter dreaming of my future life somewhere—anywhere—that was slightly warmer. I visited websites such as www.eslcafe.com and imagined my life in the sunshine and sand. In February, I applied with a large Japanese company that was recruiting at the Education career fair. I had a group interview three weeks later, and by April I had a job offer for September.

At the time I did my interview I still wasn’t completely sold on Japan. I liked the idea of teaching in South America or South-East Asia. In the end though, it was financial considerations that pushed me towards Asia, and an interest in Judo (and sushi) that led me to Japan over Korea or Taiwan, which also have well-paying jobs available.

I’m so hungry I could eat horse. Raw.

Promises of good pay, short hours and paid vacations brought me into Japan. In November 2006, amid fears of North Korea’s nuclear tests, I took one of Japan’s many ultra-efficient and always punctual high-speed trains to Nagasaki, the second city

to fall victim to an Atomic bomb strike by the Americans during WWII. The train from Fukuoka to Nagasaki takes a little over an hour, passing through mountains, over the lush countryside and along winding coastlines.

Of course, one of the highlights for me was the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum. Having learned about the infamous bombings in classes and argued its benefits and drawbacks in seminar history classes, it was a shock to see first-hand representations of the catastrophe that nuclear weapons represent. There are several charred clocks, all stopped at 11:02am, and blackened walls with silhouettes of people that bore the brunt of the explosion.

Travelling in Japan has, on the whole, been less grave, but every bit as eye-opening. Shrines and temples dot cityscapes, nestled in beside modern skyscrapers and bustling intersections. In secluded parks at night, among the bamboo shoots and moss-covered stones you can occasionally see glimmers of the city’s neon.

And only working 32 hours a week allows plenty of time to sightsee, a national obsession here. Before setting out, I always poll my students to find out the must-dos of my prospective destination. One can not go to Kumamoto, for instance, without sampling the exquisite *basashi*, or raw horse meat, served with soy sauce, thinly sliced onions and grated radish. A few kilometers north lies Sasaguri, which is well known for its squid, served so raw that it’s still twitching on the plate. I haven’t been able to stomach this, actually.

Shrines and temples dot cityscapes, nestled in beside modern skyscrapers and bustling intersections. In secluded parks at night, among the bamboo shoots and moss-covered stones you can occasionally see glimmers of the city’s neon.

If no one understands you, just speak up!

Naturally, living in a foreign country where you don’t speak the language presents some interesting challenges as well. Making friends was difficult at first, and my roommate at my company-provided accommodation proved fairly useless in this regard. A five-year veteran in the English-teaching industry in Japan, he was a bit reclusive by nature, and being on the Atkins diet severely limited his willingness to explore Japanese cuisine with me. This had the benefit of forcing me to get out and make things happen, and I found two pretty good solutions.

One of the first things I discovered was the language exchange board at the International Centre, where people who want to learn or practice another language advertise for like-minded individuals, the idea being that half of the time you spend together focuses on learning one language, and the other half is spent learning the other language.

This proved to be invaluable. I made a couple of friends who, thankfully, already spoke excellent English. Though I didn’t learn much Japanese, they showed me around the city and helped me with sort out things like groceries, bills, my mobile phone and restaurants.

I also wanted to do something, cliché as it sounds, traditionally Japanese during my time here, and having a little experience from Canada, I investigated the painful world of Japanese Martial Arts. After a short search I discovered a Japanese jujutsu (similar to judo) club, taught in Japanese by an Australian expatriot who has been living and training here for the past 20 years.

Although incredibly painful, this has been an excellent place to

meet people, both Japanese and foreign. I train every Wednesday at a shrine just off the bay. After my first class I was so sore I could barely move for the next week. Since then I’ve become a little more accustomed to it, although just barely. As though getting tossed around like a rag doll for two hours isn’t bad enough, the training hall isn’t heated. In the winter it’s absolutely freezing cold, and if my fellow masochists weren’t out to get me, I’d almost surely have succumbed to the icy cold by now.

Six months and going strong

While visiting exotic places, seeing new things, eating bizarre foods, and meeting new people have been the most interesting aspects of my year so far—filling my blog entries and letters home with lots of great stories—there are additional benefits to teaching English overseas, not the least of which are resumé-related. Not everyone can move to a completely foreign country and hold down a job, after all. Additionally, it’s possible to find jobs that pay enough money to be able to pay off student loans while seeing the world.

The job itself is also a good experience. I work for a large corporation that demands high levels of performance from all of its employees, in many respects. Working for a private company, I don’t work in a traditional classroom environment. I teach eight lessons a day, five days a week with two half-days. Each lesson has a maximum of four students, except for kids’ classes, which have a maximum of eight. As it’s a private school, employees are expected

to display not only great competence in teaching English, but also high levels of professionalism and customer service, which takes on a new meaning in Japan, where customer service has evolved from friendly greetings to utter ridiculousness. A friend of mine once had an elderly convenience store employee run for three blocks to give him five yen (about five cents) that he’d forgotten.

Accordingly, male employees in my company are required to wear a knotted tie, pressed wool or cotton business pants, a pressed shirt with a starched collar, and business-appropriate shoes. Females are to wear a neatly pressed blouse, a skirt or business trousers, and plain stockings or socks. Sleeveless blouses are out of the question, unless worn underneath a business jacket. Any piercings beyond earrings on women are out, as is unnaturally coloured, or unusually styled hair. The Japanese staff who work at our branches are held to similar standards. They are required to wear makeup, and their hair has to be as dark, or darker, than a regulation hair-sample that is kept at each branch, otherwise they’re expected to dye it.

But no one speaks English!

While it can occasionally get lonely, and I do miss my friends, my family and whole-wheat bread, teaching English in Japan has been an excellent experience. After the first month making friends became very easy. There’s a vibrant international community in Fukuoka, as there are in most large cities in the world. International newspapers and the Internet have made it easy to keep up and keep in touch. Having a sense of adventure and a lot of patience has helped me to deal with mundane day-to-day things like figuring out the post office and registering as an alien resident.

If you find yourself, as I did, with your convocation date racing towards you, and yet neither a corresponding sense of maturity nor desire to grow up too fast, going abroad to teach may be just the ticket to the adventure you’re looking for.



Tartleton outstanding in Nationals win

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

As vaunted as their offence has been this season, Pandas netminder Holly Tartleton proved the adage that goal-tending wins championships.

While all eyes were on McGill's Charline Labonté—a goalie for the National team—Tartleton outduelled her counterpart in the CIS final as Alberta downed the Martlets 4-0 at the University of Ottawa to win their second-straight National title and sixth in eight years.

"It was pretty cool; it was neat to be on the ice with her," Tartleton said of Labonté. "The thing is, she doesn't have any effect on my game; she's the farthest player on the ice from me."

The fifth-year keeper capped her CIS career in stellar fashion, posting shut-outs in five of the six playoff games she was in. Though she faced a reduced workload in the Canada West playoffs, Tartleton was relied upon heavily in this weekend's games.

"I don't think we could ask for a better ending to her career. She's never really gotten the attention she deserves as a result of playing on a team that doesn't allow a lot of shots, but she was really tested this weekend and she came up big," Pandas head coach Howie Draper said. "A couple games could have gone either way had some of the shots she stopped gone in."

The senior made 19 saves in her final CIS win, and kept her cool during McGill's four power plays. For keeping the Martlets off the scoresheet, she was named the Player of the Game, a tournament all-star and awarded the third gold medal of her career. Still, Tartleton attributes the team's commitment to defence



JASON CHIU, THE FULCRUM (CUP)

LAYING DOWN ON THE JOB Holly Tartleton (bottom right) was a key part in making this picture possible, shutting out McGill in the CIS championship game.

for only allowing two goals all post-season.

"[Defence] was a huge focus all year, and we just peaked at the right time. It's obviously a team thing for us—it's not just the defence and the goalies, but also the forwards coming back and making life easy," she said.

Despite Tartleton's claims otherwise, fifth-year assistant captain and CIS Player of the Year Lindsay McAlpine heaped praise upon Tartleton for her play in the nation's capital.

"Holly's one of my best friends

and I was so proud of her; she stood on her head for us and made some huge saves to turn to momentum around in a couple games," McAlpine said. "She gave us confidence in our defensive zone and had an outstanding tournament."

Adding to Alberta's defensive tenacity in the post-season was a hunger to prove they were still the best team in the country. After losing only four regular season conference games in their first nine years, the Pandas dropped three this season

alone, losses that Draper admits helped his team be more prepared for Nationals.

"When we played against Regina and they beat us, they were flying by us. They were owning us in our defensive zone and in front of our net; they were owning us offensively in the neutral zone, so we thought then and there we had to make some improvements. The players bought into that, and the rest is history," he explained. "At the time, those losses are devastating when you don't lose a

lot. Ultimately, they help you prepare; they give you an indication that you need to get better in certain areas."

Though some considered Tartleton the weakest link on this Pandas squad, the netminder holds no ill will towards them. After all, she has a shiny gold medal to keep her warm at night.

"There are always critics, and they always have to find something," she said. "If they want to pick on me, I'm fine with that. We have the banner," she said.



FILE PHOTO: MIKE OTTO

AHEAD OF THE PACK Despite having a long way to travel, Saskatchewan could be a step ahead of the rest at the CIS Finals, according to Eric Thurston.

Thurston learning from playoff loss, picking Moncton at Nationals

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

Golden Bears hockey head coach Eric Thurston's had "a lot of heartache and a lot of sleepless nights" since his team was upset by the Saskatchewan Huskies in the Canada West final.

Thurston is still heading to Moncton for the CIS Championships, but it will be only as a spectator—the first time the Green and Gold have been absent from the ice at Nationals in a decade. Still, Thurston sees it as an opportunity to gain experience as a young coach—he just completed his second season at the helm of the Bears.

"[Losing is] something that I need to learn from as a coach and get better at [dealing with]," he said. "As a coach, I have to be better. I have to make sure our team is 100 per cent prepared. Everything that is laid out for them—what we expect of them—has to be built in throughout the year."

Alberta's reign as two-time defending champs is over, though their replacement will be unknown until Sunday. However, a roster that featured only nine returning players from last year's gold medal winning squad, Thurston saw a lot of positives this season. He noted that his team's

work ethic impressed him—a far cry from earlier in the year when it would dip and cost the team wins—and that the team was developing a deep understanding of the expectations that come with being a player for Alberta.

"Sometimes you need to lose in order to know how to win. Maybe we took things for granted this year," he said. "The season ended too soon, and [the players] have a lot of pride in this program. Every player and every coach has to look at themselves and say, 'What can I do to make our team better?'"

With the tournament looming, Thurston sees the top two teams—the Huskies squad that knocked his club out and the host Aigles Bleues—as the

teams to beat.

"I think Moncton will take it. I think it'll be Moncton and Saskatchewan in the final. Saskatchewan's got big strong forwards and a good defence, and it might be [Huskies coach Dave] Adolph's turn. They might want it more; they've been so close [the past two years]," he said. "Moncton's got a very good team; they loaded up for this tournament. I think Saskatchewan will do well, but it's always tough to travel so far. Teams that bus in or are hosting have a big advantage."

The CIS men's national championship begins—sans Bears—Thursday at 11am MDT, when the Huskies take on the fifth-seeded University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds.

THURSTON'S PICKS

Moncton Aigles Bleues

Seed: First
National ranking: First
Conference: Atlantic
2006/07 record: 22-4-2
Playoffs: 4-0, AUS gold
Nationals since 1963: 13
Medals: four gold, one silver

Saskatchewan Huskies

Seed: Second
National ranking: Fifth
Conference: Canada West
2006/07 record: 16-9-3
Playoffs: 4-1, CW gold
Nationals since 1963: twelve
Medals: one gold, four silver



FILEPHOTO:KIMSMITH
THE TIME HAS COME Grant MacEwan, Mount Royal, UNBC and others should be included in Canada West sports.

From G-Mac to MRC—the schools CanWest should add



GATEWAY
SPORTS STAFF

Sports
Commentary

The CIS has expanded by leaps and bounds the past few years, especially as more schools move from colleges to universities, and there is talk of them continuing that expansion. Despite warnings of talent dilution and overexpansion, continued growth for both Canada West alone and CIS as a whole seems inevitable. As such, here are the schools we'd most like to see become a part of both.

Andrew Renfree

There's one clear choice for CIS expansion: Grant MacEwan. I'm not just saying that because the school has a special place in my heart—particularly Towers Pub, where I spent far too many hours in my second year. Oh how I miss thee \$9.35 pitcher; you were a good friend.

Anyway, the Grant makes a case for joining CIS beyond its cheap hops. Griffins athletics teams dominate the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC)—even if they can't spell gryphons correctly—with five first-place division finishes in eight sports. Grant MacEwan went on to win one gold, three silver and one bronze medal in Alberta, as well as a gold and a bronze at nationals—and that's in 2006/07 alone.

Furthermore, G-Mac is taking over this city like the plague, assimilating land, buildings and even other campuses to expand their vast empire. Clearly they have the cash to support a CIS-calibre program, even going head-to-head with Alberta.

Naysayers might argue that Grant MacEwan doesn't have the facilities to host CIS sports, which is true—the school has neither a hockey rink nor a field—but the gym that they do have is better than U of A's Main Gym, and their squads make out fine using other city venues to practice and host their games.

Ross Prusakowski

Given the large number of schools that already play within Canada West and CIS, it's hard to make a case that another school should be added. However, if there were one school that should be seriously considered and would be a good addition to Canada West play, it would be Mount Royal College in Calgary. With more than 12 700 full- or part-time students and an athletics program that boasts some fairly modern facilities, Mount Royal is miles ahead of some of the smaller schools already inside Canada West.

When it comes to what really matters though—performance in their sports and the standings—the Mount Royal College Cougars could more than hold their own. No other school at the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association (CCAA) has been as successful or continuously competitive as Mount Royal. This year alone, Cougar athletics medalled in five of the six big sports (men's and women's hockey, basketball and volleyball) at either the provincial or national level.

In fact, the Cougars have been so good for so long that, in 1999, the rest of the division just decided to bow down and awarded it the CCAA Sport Supremacy Award for being the best team in the previous 25 years. Even the Bears and Pandas haven't managed to convince the rest of the CIS to give them that. So, if there's one athletics program to add to the Canada West, it has to be Mount Royal College. But please, if we're going to bring one up, why not send down the University College of the Fraser Valley or Thompson Rivers University—they won't really be missed.

Trevor Phillips

The next logical step in the expansion of CIS would be to the teams in the ACAC. These are colleges that already have storied traditions in other aspects of sport. Places like Medicine Hat College and Red Deer College would drive CIS into new urban markets, and wouldn't have to compete with established CIS powers like Alberta and Calgary.

But, the best reason to take over some of the programs in the ACAC would be to change the worn-out

division alignment of Canada West. Right now, there are far more BC schools (6) than Alberta (3) or the prairies (5). The addition of two ACAC schools would allow Canada West to create three divisions: BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan/Manitoba. This would ease travel for all teams and create more hostile local rivalries in most sports. Overall, this would create a much more enticing playoff situation along with a newfound marketing appeal for some of the untapped athletic resources within this province.

Nick Frost

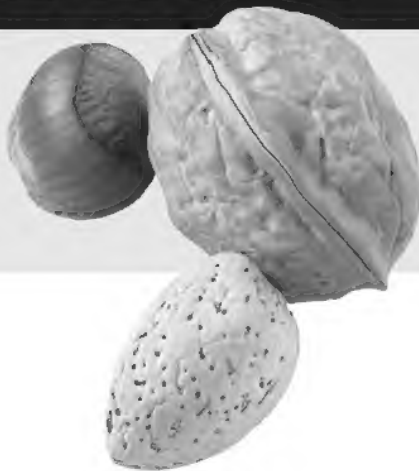
If CIS is going recruit another school into its ranks to compete against the best universities in the country, why not include one that fits the bill just by its name alone: the University of Northern British Columbia. UNBC is one of the few universities left in the country that doesn't currently compete in CIS action and, despite what I'm sure are intense competitions against some of the finest community colleges that central-BC has to offer, it would seem as though these Wolverines are ready to break away from the pack.

Located in Prince George, the Wolverines would be following in the footsteps of other British Columbian teams that have made the leap from the British Columbia Collegiate Athletics Association in the last decade or so: Trinity Western University in 2001, Thompson Rivers University in 2005 and the Fraser Valley Cascades, who made the jump this past fall. Currently, UNBC features teams in five different sports that could compete in the Canada West conference: men's and women's basketball and soccer, and men's hockey.

While these teams would likely sit at the bottom of the standings for the first few years, as most new teams in any league do, there's always the likelihood that at least one of the program's teams could rise up and pose a challenge to the Canada West elite—look no further than TWU, who joined the CIS six years ago and have seen a great deal of success at both conference and national levels in soccer and volleyball.

It's all About Fat: 2007

March 28th, 2007
1:30–4:00pm
Myer Horowitz Theater, SUB



Speakers & Topics

- Eliminating and/or Reducing the Bad Fats in the Diet
Dr. Bruce McDonald
- Saturated Fats: The Ups and Downs
Helen Bishop MacDonald, RD
- Tracking Nutrition Trends VI: Capturing Consumer Insights on Food, Nutrition & The Skinny on Fat
Francy Pillo-Blocka, RD
- Omega 3 Fats: What they are and why we should care
Dr. Stephen Cunneane

Reception
to follow

- Free food!
- Door prizes!

THEATRE SPORTS

Enjoy **FREE** Admission to
Theatresports™ or **Chimprov**
when a second admission of equal or greater value is purchased.

Valid Friday and Saturday nights – 11 p.m. start
Varscona Theatre 10329-83 Ave.
Not valid for Fringe or Mainstage productions
Reservations recommended: call 448-0695
Expires: April 30/2007 www.rapidfiretheatre.com



MARKET RESEARCH INTERVIEWER



- Conduct interviews over the telephone from our centrally located call centre, accurately enter data into a computer system.
- Absolutely no sales involved.
- Position requires excellent telephone manner and typing skills.
- Flexible scheduling with shift choices.
- Company benefits plan.
- \$10.50 / hour to start, with performance based reviews.

Please mail, fax or email your resume to:
2nd Floor, 10304 – 108 Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 1L9
Fax: 780-485-5085
Email: HR@TrendResearch.ca
Phone: 780-485-6558

TREND HIRES ON AN ONGOING BASIS



Meet Robin Esrock: MODERN GONZO



-travelled to over 70 countries - writes articles for major newspapers -
- shares his travels on www.moderngonzo.com

Travel CUTS is proud to sponsor Modern Gonzo's upcoming presentation:



20 Countries in 50 Minutes Presentation
Tuesday March 27, 7-9pm
Alumni Lounge, Students' Union Building
University of Alberta

SUB, U of A 492-2592
HUB Mall, U of A 492-2756



LSAT MCAT GMAT GRE Preparation Seminars

- Complete 30-Hour Seminars
- Proven Test-Taking Strategies
- Personalized Professional Instruction
- Comprehensive Study Materials
- Simulated Practice Exams
- Free Repeat Policy
- Personal Tutoring Available
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

Oxford Seminars

780-428-8700 / 1-800-779-1779

www.oxfordseminars.com

Teach English Overseas



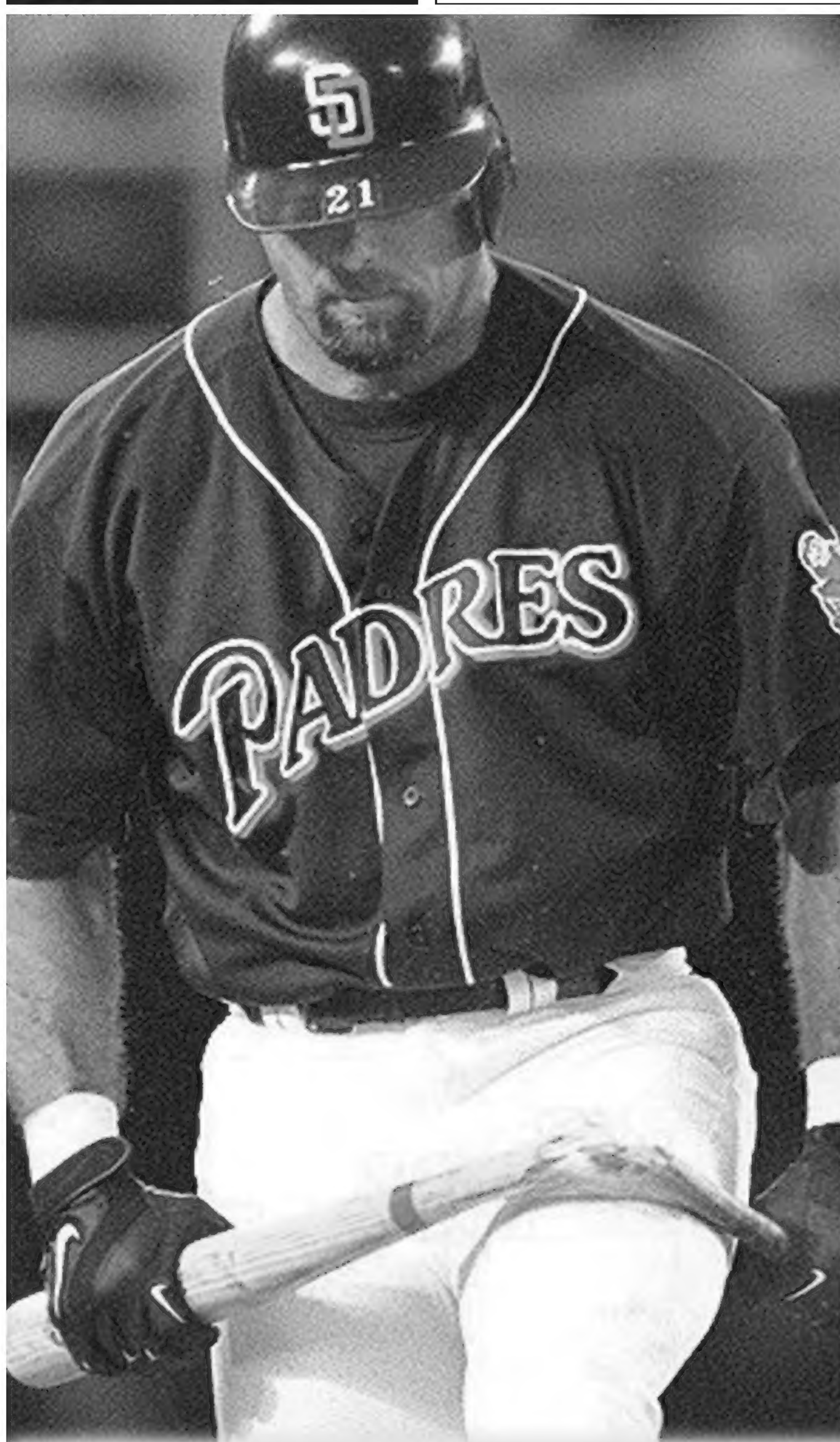
- Intensive 60-Hour Program
- Classroom Management Techniques
- Detailed Lesson Planning
- Comprehensive Teaching Materials
- Internationally Recognized Certificate
- Teacher Placement Service
- Money Back Guarantee Included
- Thousands of Satisfied Students



OXFORD
SEMINARS

780-428-8700 / 1-800-779-1779

www.oxfordseminars.com



Whoa Ken Caminiti, you can't do that!

That's Bo Jackson's move! Well, unlike in Major League Baseball, we aren't allowed to steal other people's work here at the *Gateway*. Instead we come up with new and exciting ideas and ways to tell the story of teams of women and men competing against one another. That's what makes us so much cooler than the San Diego Padres. Also, we don't need steroids in order to win the National League MVP—or to get our articles in on time. So come up to 3-04 SUB and tell Paul—he's the guy in the black hat—that you'd like to write for *Gateway Sports*. Or come to a sports meeting Tuesday at 5pm.

sports@gateway.ualberta.ca

GATEWAY SPORTS

Not suffering from 'roid rage since 1910



FILE PHOTO: TARA STIEGLITZ

ROLLING OUT THE RED CARPET A different format for Nationals may have seen the Bears go, and be less sad.

Pushing for change in CIS

Debate rages over the structure of the hockey National championships

NICK TAYLOR-VAISEY
The Fulcrum

OTTAWA (CUP)—Ottawa was the focal point of Canadian university women's hockey from 16–19 March, as the University of Ottawa hosted the CIS National Championships. The tournament included six teams from across the country, but some are wondering if they were the best the league had to offer.

Several of the results in the round-robin portion of the tournament were washouts, as the McGill Martlets, Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks and Alberta Pandas ran away with games against the other three teams in the tournament. At the same time, strong squads in Ontario—evenly matched with many teams in the tournament—were left out due to the championship's six-team limit. Some critics of the six-team structure argue that the conference hosting the tournament shouldn't automatically have two berths. Currently, each of the four conferences gets a spot, with the other two spots going to the host conference and the conference that won the previous year. This year, two of the four Québec conference teams—Ottawa and McGill—were in the tournament, and had McGill won the final over Alberta, only one Québec team would

have been left out of next year's event, which will again be held in Ottawa.

Karen Hughes, the head coach of the University of Toronto Varsity Blues women's hockey team, is among those who think the tournament format deserves re-examination.

"Something where there are two teams from each conference might work," she said. "But it's hard, because there are only four teams in the [Québec conference]...[Ontario] has more than twice as many teams, and only one spot. The level of competition is definitely there; I don't think we would have been out of place at Nationals."

The current tournament structure divides competitors into two three-team pools. If a team splits its games against its fellow pool competitors, and each team in the pool has a record of a win and a loss, goal differential determines who will play in the final.

At the 2004 tournament, such a situation occurred. At the time, Golden Hawks head coach Rick Osborne complained that although his team beat the Gee-Gees in the round robin, it was Ottawa that advanced on goal difference to the final game against the Pandas. He said that although his team has learned how to play the current format, he would welcome any changes.

"There's talk of it going to eight [teams], with a couple from each conference in the country. That would be good," he said. "I think for women's hockey, you would like to have the best teams in the final six, as opposed to always giving the host conference the extra team."

But not everyone agrees. Peter Smith, head coach of the Martlets, scoffed at the idea that the tournament structure should be reconsidered.

"The format is good. It involves the entire country, and I think that's important for the development of women's hockey," he said. "I think it's competitive. On any given day, whoever happens to be firing best can win."

Gee-Gees head coach Shelley Coolidge said she had no problem with the tournament structure, defending her team's performance over the weekend. Although her team was shut out in the round robin by a combined score of 10–0 at the hands of the Golden Hawks and Pandas, Coolidge blamed it all on bad bounces.

"We beat Laurier in exhibition earlier in the season, and we tied Alberta [as well]. Alberta was nervous playing against us in the first period of our game," she said. "So the competition is there—we simply couldn't get it going this weekend."

THE MEN'S PERSPECTIVE

The men's tournament follows the same format as the women's except that the defending champion's conference doesn't get an extra berth; it switches conferences year-to-year. Eric Thurston's Golden Bears hockey squad might have benefited from a CIS tournament that featured eight teams, however, he doesn't feel that's the proper way to address the situation.

"The final six is the way to go," Thurston said. "[But] I don't like the wild card that rotates around—it's easy to say when you lose and you want that

[so you can go]—but I would prefer that the top two teams from each conference go, and if you're hosting, that's one of your two."

Thurston also noted that the current format of CIS playoffs that sees teams play three games in three days needs to be looked at for revision. He pointed to the women's finals being played on a Monday as reason why the tournament could start Friday and still give teams a day off before the gold medal game. This would help keep teams from wearing down in a National final.

"[CIS] needs to let players be their best so the best team does win. Guys are completely exhausted and worn-out, and they don't get to showcase the best hockey," he said.

Finally, Thurston would like to see CIS look at altering the way the tournament breaks down and adopting a round-robin format similar to the Memorial Cup, where the top team after the round-robin gets into the final while the second and third teams play in a semifinal.

Paul Owen

Athletes are people too; stop treating them like gods



ELIZABETH
MCMILLAN

Sports
Commentary

The cult of the athlete is huge in this city. As we saw last year, NHL players who are paid millions of dollars per year have the power to captivate an entire nation. Even 16 years after Messier left the City of Champions, the mythology surrounding his tenure in this city was resurrected, the same day Oilers fans all but wept when Smyth was traded.

But at a school like the University of Alberta, athletes don't have the same ability to bring campus together. While smaller university campuses around Canada and the US centre around sporting events, at best, only a small fraction of the U of A student population is present at games. With the Oilers, Eskimos and Rush,

students have other sporting outlets away from the University.

Without detracting from the Bears' and Pandas' athletic accomplishments, which have been considerable, student athletes are valuable to the University largely as a marketing tool. As a result, this University has some of the best teams in the country. Recent men's hockey losses aside, with every CIS championship they're a portable brand that can bring the U of A into homes across the country.

This is nothing against the athletes—many of whom I consider to be friends—but a condemnation of how we treat them. They're friends, classmates, colleagues and peers, not a group that should be looked at apart from the rest of the student body. It's this perception that creates inflated egos and unnecessary reverence.

In response to the attention they get from the school and fans alike, we automatically project value onto athletes—specifically male athletes—because we're so used to them holding celebrity status in our culture. It's

not based on individuals, individual talent or even individual personalities. Problems arise when this reverence moves off the court and out of the Butterdome.

Without detracting from the Bears' and Pandas' athletic accomplishments, which have been considerable, student athletes are valuable to the University largely as a marketing tool.

Student athletes are indeed talented—they're also fortunate enough to excel at a sport that people enjoy. They deserve praise because they work hard, sustain an academic average and devote hours to something they care about, so give them full

marks for dedication. But they're really no different than the thousands of other students who balance coursework with a part-time job in order to afford to go to school. They're no more worthy of recognition than the people who volunteer to help their community. They don't do anything more extraordinary than what students with disabilities face on a daily basis.

The way athletes are valued is gender-based as well. Perceptions of male athletes are generally sexualized as testosterone-fuelled male ideals. They're literally the Big Men On Campus. Even when men's and women's teams exhibit similar skill levels and success, men's games inevitably draw the biggest crowds—after all, they're faster, stronger and better, right? Meanwhile, female athletes are caught somewhere in between, not masculine enough to live up to their male counterparts' standards but masculine enough to be considered “butch”—with the exception of some overtly sexualized teams of course

(think volleyball spandex here).

As well, female athletes are often valued not because of their own accomplishments, but rather their association with male athletes. For some people, hooking up with the entire roster becomes a mark of distinction in itself. Our culture makes it socially acceptable and even commendable for women to get played.

Valuing athletes just because they're part of a varsity team cultivates a culture of entitlement that rewards people based on an imagined status. It has nothing to do with athletic talent or standings. While some people glory in perceived stereotypes, not every locker-room frequenter is cocky, callous or promiscuous. In fact, not every player wants to be associated with their sport's label, or even that of their teammates. When some people do use the title as an excuse to live up to perceptions, they justify blanketing the rest of the team. But as most varsity athletes—and friends of varsity athletes—know, they aren't that special after all.

*This could be your laundromat.
Ça pourrait être votre buanderie.*

www.canada123go.ca 1-877-go123go

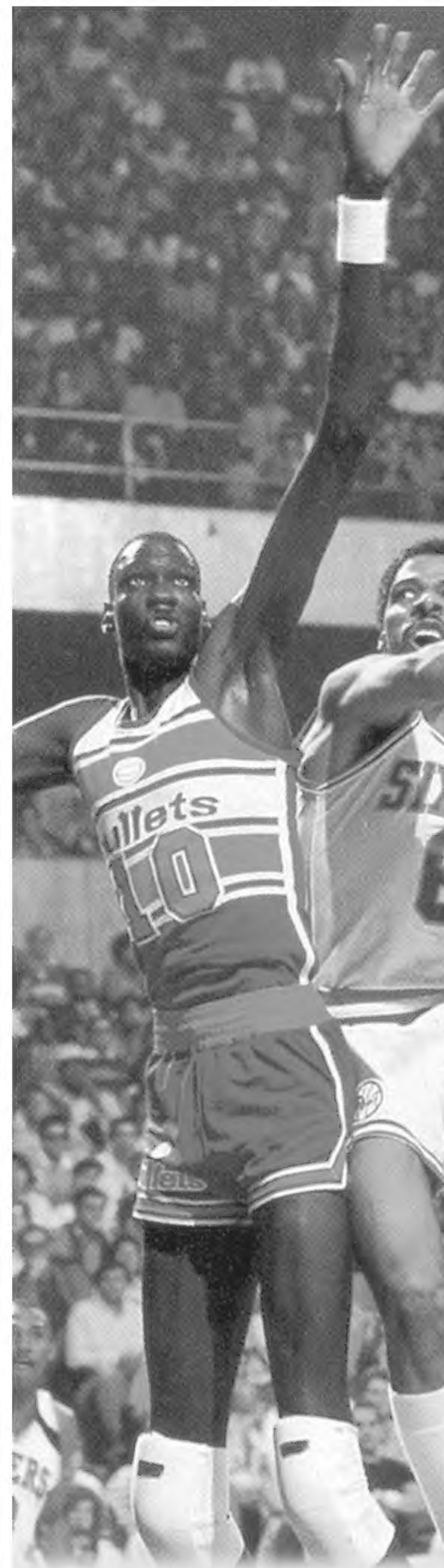
TRAVEL & WORK ABROAD
VOYAGER ET TRAVAILLER À L'ÉTRANGER



Foreign Affairs and
International Trade Canada

Affaires étrangères et
Commerce international Canada

Canada



Manute Bol is hardly minute at all.

He's also involved himself in various volunteer work over the years—most of it benefitting his homeland of Sudan. While writing for the *Gateway* isn't quite as noble a volunteer opportunity, it is a great way to meet new people, develop your writing skills and even write about the Golden Bears and Pandas—some of who almost reach Manute's armpits. So stop by a sports meeting at 5pm on Tuesdays and hang out, reminisce about the time Manute fought the Fridge and maybe even pick up an assignment. Manute would appreciate it.

GATEWAY SPORTS
Rocking the short shorts since 1910

THE GATEWAY

volume XCVII number 42 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ thursday, 22 march, 2007

Nursing grades exposed

SCOTT LILWALL
Deputy News Editor

Some at the University of Alberta are calling for an apology and greater security measures from the Faculty of Nursing after the release of confidential academic information of students enrolled in the after-degree nursing program.

Victor Harding, one student that had his grades sent out over the after-degree program's e-mail list on 16 March, described his reaction when he was first told by a friend of the release.

"At first, I didn't know if I was [among those who had their grades e-mailed out], so I was just kind of like 'Well, that sucks.' When I heard it was me, I was shocked and a little bit angry that it was my information that was leaked out."

"No one from the faculty has contacted me yet to tell me that my confidential information was given out to people who it shouldn't have been."

**VICTOR HARDING,
NURSING STUDENT**

The e-mail, which was mistakenly sent out by an associate coordinator in the faculty to all the first- and second-year students in the program, included a Microsoft Excel file that contained the names and student ID numbers of some senior-year students. Also in the file was information on where the students had requested consideration for clinical placements, grade-point averages and academic standing, including if students were on academic probation. While it's unknown how many people read the information in the e-mail, the message was sent to about 170 students.

Harding said that knowing other students had gotten a hold of his grades wasn't much of a worry for himself, but he was upset that the faculty Administration had made no attempt to let him know what had happened.

"No one from the faculty has contacted me yet to tell me that my confidential information was given out to people who it shouldn't have been," he said. "I think that's a mistake on their part and I think it makes them look very unprofessional."

PLEASE SEE **GRADES** ♦ PAGE 6



DAN LAZIN

THE LAND OF THE RISING NEON SIGNS U of A graduate Alex Deacon relates his adventures teaching English abroad in Fukuoka, Japan. Feature pages 14-15.

Polar bears could face extinction, scientist warns

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

The Norwegian word for polar bear is *isbjørn*, or "ice bear," but, due to climate change, that name might not remain entirely reflective of their environment.

University of Alberta biologist Dr Andrew Derocher explained that changes in patterns of sea-ice breakup have raised concerns that the bears' futures may be in danger.

"It doesn't take one very long to recognize that if you take away the habitat of any species, particularly highly specialized species like polar bears, you eventually see them drop out of the ecosystem," he warned.

Derocher has studied polar bears for almost a quarter century and is currently involved in researching their populations in three areas: the southern Beaufort Sea, Wager Bay and western Hudson Bay.

"One of the long-term goals [of the projects] is to basically try to come up with an understanding of movement patterns, habitat use, amount of time that the bears are spending on the sea ice in different areas, and we're going to try to relate that back into long-term variation in climate," he said.

As Polar Bear Specialist Group chairman for the World Conservation Union, Derocher explained that a US

proposal to list polar bears in Alaska as a threatened species is "actually a global petition." However, the decision on listing polar bears, which is due next January from the Alaska's Fish and Wildlife Service, has become a contentious issue.

"[If] the US Administration decided that the linkage was climate change and sea-ice loss, then the concern would be that all industrial activity that would impinge on greenhouse gases might be affected," he said, adding that the petition doesn't come in any way out of opposition to the current practice of quota sport hunting.

"What's really driven a lot of the conservation concern for polar bears is the actual disappearance of their habitat," he said.

Derocher said that researchers are already seeing some of the more subtle effects of habitat changes in three different polar bear populations. These include declines in the survival of offspring and a decrease in the overall condition of bears. He also further disputed claims that polar bears could adapt to live on land.

"Somewhere between 200 000 and 400 000 years ago, [polar bears] split off from the brown bear or grizzly bear ancestor—they moved rapidly to change colour, shape, anatomy, physiology to deal with becoming a specialized predator on seals," he said,



SUPPLIED: DR ANDREW DEROCHER

DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME Derocher has spent decades studying polar bears.

adding that while they are capable of eating other things, the reason they can make a living in the Arctic is tied to the fact that they are able to exploit the blubber of seals.

"Without access to [blubber], it's highly unlikely that they're going to find an alternate means of surviving. If this was a [climate] change over tens of thousands or hundreds of thousands of years, I'd say all bets are off," he said. "[But] the problem is we're talking about extremely rapid change

in the Arctic in the order of decades to centuries, and that is not an evolutionary time frame that's meaningful for a species that has a very long reproductive interval and very slow rates of population growth.

"If people can't draw the lines between the sea ice disappearing and the polar bears disappearing then ... I would say they don't understand how polar bears make a living and nor do they understand the basic principles of conservation biology," he said.

Inside

News	1-8
Opinion	10-13
Feature	14-15
Sports	16-19
A&E	20-23
Classifieds	24-24
Reader Survey	26
Comics	27



Guarding the crease

Thanks to their goaltender, the Pandas hockey squad will be taking over RATT for the rest of the month.

SPORTS, PAGE 16



C'mon, we can take it

We're not perfect, and we need your help to get better. Fill out our survey for the chance to win fabulous prizes.

READER SURVEY, PAGE 26

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

The Flyfisher's Companion

Directed by James DeFelice
Starring Glenn Nelson and John Wright
Varscona Theater
Running 15 March to 1 April
Tickets available through TIX-On-The-Square or through Shadow Theatre

Generally, the only time people think about fly-fishing is when they're forced to do it by some abominable uncle, or if they're bored and decide to flip on some Sunday morning television. But playwright Michael Melski, writer of this season's Theatre Network production of *Hockey Dad, Hockey Mom*, feels your pain; he's ready to take the art of fly-fishing to the next dramatic level. The latest offering by Shadow Theater, *The Flyfisher's Companion* tells of two best friends who are war veterans and have faced great hardship in their lives, venturing out on their last fishing trip together. Directed by James DeFelice, the play reflects on the themes of life, death and friendship, and should have no problem pulling in the coveted yellow-galoshes-and-plaid-shirts crowd.



The Wind That Shakes the Barley

Directed by Ken Loach
Starring Cillian Murphy and Liam Cunningham
Garneau Theatre
Opens Friday, 23 March

If you asked director Ken Loach why he decided to release a movie about the fight for Ireland's independence a week *after* St Patrick's Day, he'd probably scoff and laugh. That's because when you make a movie that wins the Palme D'Or for best film at the annual Cannes Film Festival, you can do pretty much whatever the hell you want. A tale of two Irish brothers torn between sides during the Irish uprising against the British in the 1920s, the film stars Cillian Murphy, an actor who's been praised for his role as one of the brothers. Unfortunately, he's not chased by zombies or Batman this time, which could have serious box office ramifications. As well, the film has been criticized as being slanted against the British, continuing on the long-standing, centuries-old tradition of the world being incredibly unfair towards the oppressed underclass of white British people.

Sparta

With Moneen and Attack in Black
Monday, 26 March at 7pm
Starlite Room

Emo lovers, it's time to break out the black eyeliner, girl pants and superficial sorrow, because two kingpins of the genre, Sparta and Moneen, descend into the Starlite Room this Monday to thrash the tear ducts out of their followers. If you want to break down their music into ridiculous genres, Sparta's more alternative punk/post-hardcore, while Moneen's more emocore. Regardless, Sparta formed after At The Drive In split up in 2001 and act as the yin to the Mars Volta's yang, taking on a more straightforward punk sound compared to the Volta's experimental space rock. As well, they got on the Spartans-are-cool-and-badass bandwagon years before 300 came out. Indeed, if the rugged and courageous ancient Spartans still existed, they'd probably be emo kids, judging by the amount of whining we heard about the Battle of Thermopylae. We get it already, okay? The battle was uneven. Just make sure your dyed black hair covers only one eye before you fight for your homeland again, you nancies.

JOHN KMECH
SUB stalker

Satisfaction: Guaranteed

Darrek Anderson and The Guaranteed ready to market their alternative brand of country music

Darrek Anderson and The Guaranteed

With The Perpetrators and The Sheepdogs
Saturday, 24 March at 8pm
The Powerplant

ALYSSA PANKIW
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Darrek Anderson is a man of few words. True, heartfelt words, but still, they're released sparingly and usually in the form of a song. The rural-Ontario native, who now resides in Alberta, works closely with three other stoic characters: Tom Murray, Sean Brewer and Scott Davidchuk, to form Darrek Anderson and The Guaranteed. Their music is raw, rough and about as honest as four young men's work can get.

Described as alt-country, Anderson's words put an impressive stamp on the Canadian music scene in 2004, with his debut album, *The Old Routine*. His quartet has been subtly spreading the gospel of true country music ever since.

"I don't think I could sell the country genre as a whole," Anderson admits. "There are parts to it that I really like and there are parts that I can't stand at all. I like the honesty and the angle that a lot of the newer alt-country is taking. It's just really honest music, and it can be a little bit mean and pretty much anything you need it to be. It's not fake and it's never commercial and it's not written with any kind of marketing in the back of anyone's mind. It's just true music. I appreciate any kind of music that's like that."

Anderson admits that a traditional definition of country music is hard to come by in today's scene, but is able to peg down exactly what the genre means to him in the simplest of terms.

"I guess it's an alternative to the mainstream," Anderson explains. "Mainstream country music is one of the best examples of pop culture, marketing and image right

now—the makeup and the glossy photos and writing with a team. Alt-country is just an option that's against all that. It's pretty much the opposite, but still soul-driven music, simple and defined by an acoustic guitar."

Though the group is lyrically driven, a strong, masculine instrumental style provides essential backbone to Anderson's candid words. On their new album, *Places You Used to Go*, due out in spring 2007, the drum, bass and guitar are even more fleshed out due to the addition of several new guest members.

"I wanted to work with brand-new musicians," Anderson says. "On this session I brought out Sean Jonasson from The Swiftys. He added a lot to the record and did some co-production and mixing and whatnot. There were quite a lot of

Ontario musicians on this session. This record is going to sound different than the first one.

"It's probably going to sound a lot more communal and polished because all of the musicians are quite experienced—300 shows a year kind of experienced," Anderson continues. "There were definitely a couple of songs that I could specify right in the studio how I wanted the musicians to interpret them. I could say, 'Play that song sadder,' and they wouldn't even question it. They managed to fit into my sound without much suggestion really."

This evolution from a more humble sound stemmed from a join with the Edmonton-based label Monday Morning Records.

"It's a really great situation because it's a brand-new label and my release is going to be their first release," Anderson says. "So there's really not a lot to say except that they're very different from other independent labels that we spoke to. They're set up different, and they're doing things that are not corporate driven, but really music friendly."

The collaboration with Monday Morning Records is rooted in Anderson's affinity for Alberta's prairie environment, and his connection to the fan base here.

"What I feel comfortable playing is pretty fitting for a rural setting," Anderson says. "Lyrically, most of my songs are about real life and relationships. '26 oz of Gin' is about a relationship. It wasn't so much me on the gin. That was a girl. There's got to be a few good drinking songs on every album, and we definitely don't mind our listeners drinking."

When reflecting on his life or his lyrics though, the young country singer takes on a more sober attitude, and affirms of his credibility with these words.

"I don't want to be too caught up in any moment or too passionate about the topic I'm writing about," Anderson says. "In that state, it comes out all wrong. I like to sit on a situation and understand it. I like to sit down when I know

I have lots of time to put my heart into it."



Sexy seductions as appealing as dragon slaying



ELIZABETH
VAIL

Last week I finished the final novel on my university reading list. No more 20th century American ennui! No more diatribes on the Canadian immigrant experience! No more Margaret freakin' Atwood! Don't get me wrong, I enjoy novels like *Alias Grace* and *Cosmopolis*, but you get a different tone in reading a book you picked out for fun in comparison to a book a professor picked for you with the idea of enriching your mind.

The first book on my "After University

Pile" list was *Bet Me*, by Jennifer Crusie. My sister raised her eyebrows and said, "I guess you're young enough to get away with it." My mother raised her eyebrows and said, "I hope you realize this author's writing for a more average audience." A co-volunteer at the Gateway raised her eyebrows and said, "I wouldn't have lowered myself to that level." You see, *Bet Me* is an example of a genre that, despite being the highest-selling in paperback, is also one of the most publicly mocked: the mistreated, downtrodden, secretly beloved romance.

Why is romance the most derided of the genres? How did "Harlequin Romance" become the by-word for "by-the-numbers tripe" instead of "Dragonlance Fantasy?" Readers of true crime can buy novels with blood-soaked weapons on the cover and walk

out of the store unmolested, but if you want a book sporting a shirtless Fabio, you have to accept the fact that the cashiers at Chapters are going to assume that you're a) uneducated, b) pathetically single or c) childishly naïve.

Romance is held in contempt because people believe that it either gives their readers unrealistic expectations, or that it's read with the intention of improving one's love life. I was warned by my mother that I shouldn't take romance novels as examples of real relationships. Right. And yet, no one cautioned me not to take Peter S Beagle's books too seriously because I might get the idea that unicorns exist, or that I shouldn't read *Lord of the Rings* if I need advice on how to take over the world with magical bling-bling. In society's eyes, fantasy readers know that dragons don't really exist, mystery readers admit that

many crimes remain unsolved and adventure readers realize that in real life, James Bond's bullet-riddled corpse should currently be decomposing in an unmarked grave in Siberia. And yet women who read romance ... wait, did I say *women*?

Indeed—I think one of main reasons that romance is mocked is because of society's long-held and subconscious belief that women, by themselves, are stupid. Romance is the only genre that's written, produced and read almost exclusively by women. Science fiction and adventures were primarily male-pioneered and are read by both genders, so no one worries about those readers wanting to contact aliens or rescue damsels in the jungle. And yet the flighty, pink-stiletto-wearing female readership of romance is disastrously inclined to confuse fiction and reality.

Since when is the rakish pirate king who falls for the feisty virgin widow of his dastardly magistrate half-brother a more believable character than a rock-star vampire?

Women read romance for the same reason people read mystery and science fiction: to live vicariously through the protagonist's exciting, sexy and fantastic adventures. If it's not wrong to piggy-back upon a vampire's quest in Anne Rice novels, then there's nothing weird about reading a romance to experience a delicious seduction by the aforementioned pirate king. Heave ho, ladies, and enjoy your love-struck pirates, passionate Scottish lords and tenderly savage cowboys. Because we know that once we close those books, we're back in the real world, with fiendish exams, pretentious professors and disappointingly fully-dressed men.

Mimzy preaches a dull environmental mantra

The Last Mimzy

Directed by Robert Shaye

Starring Chris O'Neil, Rhiannon Leigh

Wryn, Joely Richardson, Timothy

Hutton, Rainn Wilson, Kathryn Hahn,

Michael Clarke Duncan and Tom

Heaton

Opens Friday, 23 March

Empire Theatres

MARIA KOTOVYCH

Arts & Entertainment Staff

A little stuffed bunny named Mimzy could kick Barbie's ass any day, especially when it comes to saving the world.

In *The Last Mimzy*, Noah Wilder (Chris O'Neil) and his little sister, Emma (Rhiannon Leigh Wryn) are playing on the beach when they find Mimzy and some other toys that give them special powers. The toys have been sent from the future by a scientist who's concerned about humanity's fate. Environmental destruction has gotten

increasingly bad, and the scientist (Tom Heaton) sends the toys back so someone can, basically, save the world.

At first, the children's self-absorbed yuppie parents, Jo (Joely Richardson) and workaholic David (Timothy Hutton), along with Noah's teacher, Larry White (Rainn Wilson), don't know about the toys. Eventually, their magical powers cause a blackout in Seattle, which "terrorism expert" Nathaniel Broadman (Michael Clarke Duncan) suspects is an attack, pinpointing the Wilder family as the source. The remainder of the movie is a race for the Wilder family to escape from a terrorist detention centre in order to save the world.

The Last Mimzy sounds like an exciting and suspenseful movie, but it's really not. After the children find the toys, nothing—that's worth watching, anyway—really happens. The children experiment with the types of things the stuffed animals can do, then they go to school, then they play with



them some more and everything is all hunky-dory. The problem is that there's no conflict and no actual point to the story until about halfway through. It's not until the family is accused of terrorism that something interesting actually happens.

Even worse is the film's loose environmental commentary wrapped in a contrived pseudo-Buddhist feel. Noah's teacher lectures about DNA and how environmental pollutants can affect

humans. His mother meditates in front of an altar. Environmental destruction threatens humanity. Yet, the family has an enormous home, a huge beach house and fancy, expensive, gas-guzzling cars, sending a convoluted message to kids.

The only redeeming feature of *The Last Mimzy* is the brother-sister relationship between Noah and Emma. O'Neil and Wryn do a decent job, although Wryn's crying looks really

fake. Still, it's refreshing to see a movie where siblings *actually* play together and take care of each other.

The Last Mimzy could have presented the message about environmental destruction more convincingly, but the unfortunate contradictions cause audiences to raise an eyebrow at the whole attempt. Pollution destroys our physical environment, and at the same time, bad movies like *The Last Mimzy* do the same to our culture.

KEYSTONE MUSIC PRESENTS
LIVE AT MACLAB THEATRE
9828 101 A AVE.

**SHAWN
COLVIN**

WITH
SPECIAL GUEST

MAY 7 ★ 8PM

Tickets available at
Citadel Theatre Box Office
(780) 425-1820

& online at
www.citadeltheatre.com

www.shawncolvin.com



www.keystonemusic.ca



HAIRY POTTER!



GATEWAY A&E

Making stupid visual
puns since 1910

Volunteer Abroad

PERU
COSTA RICA
NICARAGUA
ECUADOR
NEPAL
GHANA

Available on campus at:
TRAVEL CUTS
& VOYAGES CAMPUS

SOCIAL PROGRAMS
HEALTH+MEDICINE
CUSTOM GROUPS
CONSERVATION
TEACHING
BUILDING

I have been truly changed by this experience and can't wait to go back.
Emily Wilson
Ghana Social Program

(800) 263-0050
volunteerabroad.ca



An amazingly graceless film

Amazing Grace

Directed by Michael Apted
Starring Ioan Gruffudd, Ciaran Hinds, Romola Garai and Youssou N'Dour
Opens Friday, 23 March
Empire Theatres

MARIA KOTOVYCH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

We all know that the fight to end the slave trade in the British Commonwealth was a slow process, but *Amazing Grace* took it too literally. Really, the film must have mirrored its pacing to this historical process, for it's just as sluggish and seems to take forever to end.

Amazing Grace tells the story of William Wilberforce (Ioan Gruffudd), a British Member of Parliament who fought to end the slave trade in British colonies. Wilberforce's religious revelations and awareness of slavery conditions lead his dedication to the Abolitionist cause. While this description might sound short, that's really all there is to the plot.

Amazing Grace tries to depict too many different historical events, causing the movie to drag even at the most exciting points. If it had focused just on the anti-slavery movement, it would have been stronger and less convoluted. It also doesn't help that the script is seriously dull. In the end, although all the acting is top-notch, the cast doesn't have a lot to work with, and so their talents go wasted.

Gruffudd plays Wilberforce quite convincingly and passionately, and Romola Garai plays Barbara Wilberforce—his socially aware love interest—with poise. Unfortunately, her character isn't developed beyond being smart; she's interesting, yes, but we aren't shown how she developed her social conscience, nor do we get to learn very much about this unconventional 18th century English woman. By the end of the movie, she ends up being nothing more than a pretty face.

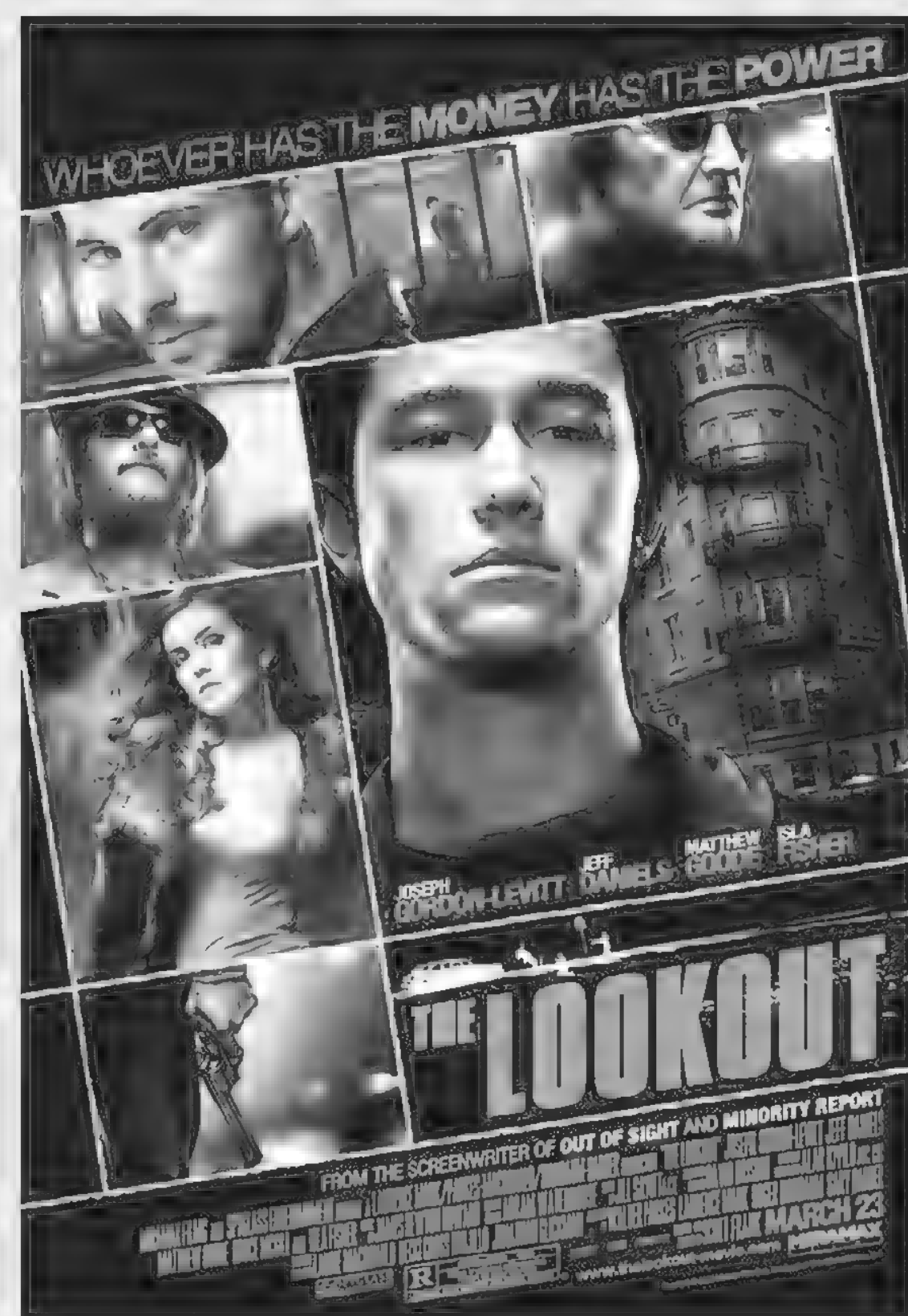
***Amazing Grace* tries to depict too many different historical events, causing the movie to drag even at the most exciting points.**

Another character, who unfortunately spends most of his time on the sidelines, is Olaudah Equiano (played by Youssou N'Dour), a former slave who bought his own freedom. Born in Africa, the real-life Equiano was a key figure in the fight against slavery. His personal experiences as a slave and descriptions of conditions on plantations and slave ships provided a direct account of slavery to the aid of the Abolition movement.

Furthermore, because he was educated, intelligent and eloquent, Equiano shows that Africans aren't sub-human or "savages"—a widespread belief among European colonists. Yet Equiano's presence isn't explained in this movie; audiences unfamiliar with the real-life Equiano won't understand how this man managed to procure his freedom. By marginalizing Equiano's story, the film behaves no better than other historic and artistic works that silence the voices of the oppressed while focusing on the great (white) men of history. It's an ironic and self-defeating oversight.

However, unlike other films that discuss slavery, *Amazing Grace* does a good job of accurately presenting its conditions. In the most memorable scene, Wilberforce takes a bunch of hoity-toity, upper-class Brits to a newly returned slave ship, and makes them inhale the horrible smells coming from the ship, the result of close quarters for an extended period of time. Scenes like these make the movie stronger and show elements of history that many viewers might not have known before.

Unfortunately, for *Amazing Grace* these impacting scenes are outnumbered by many unnecessary and boring ones. In the end, what could've been an interesting and insightful movie winds up leaving audiences tired of the whole slavery debate rather than enlightened.



Wanna check out the sneak preview of *The Lookout*?

Come up to 3-04 SUB today (Thursday) and answer this skill-testing question:
What television show is Joseph Gordon-Levitt best known for?

The Lookout Screens Monday, 26 March at 7pm at Edmonton City Centre.

THE GATEWAY



AMANDA ASH

HOW TO MAKE THE KIDS SCREAM The Fray played to a sold-out crowd of primed teenaged hipsters Monday night.

Rocktography's worth a thousand guitar solos

Rocktography

Friday, 23 March at 8pm
Orange Hall (10335-84 Ave)

KELSEY TANASIUK
Arts & Entertainment Writer

When taking concert photos, it's important to watch one's head. You just never know what might happen.

"I was taking photos and I almost got hit by a keyboard cover," explains Krystle Gan, a University of Alberta student and one of the eight photographers contributing to the upcoming concert photo exhibit, entitled Rocktography. "The musician threw his keyboard lid to me and it almost knocked me out. It was kind of a funny moment. I don't know if it's worthy to be quoted in the newspaper, though."

While being nearly decapitated in front of a crowd of screaming fans might be a downfall of being a concert photographer, there are definitely benefits to it. Not only do you get to listen to your favourite music while depicting to the rest of the audience what they might not see beyond the tall guy in front, but you also get to share your art work with other photographers.

"I don't think there's ever been anything really quite like this," Gan

says about the exhibit, adding that the show plays on the natural curiosity all concert goers all have. "You'll see some of the photographers taking photos at shows, and you wonder what kind of photos they are and how they turned out."

And while the photography is the main focus of the show, local promoter and Rocktography organizer Kristin Cheung says that a little bit of accompanying music doesn't hurt.

"[Rocktography] is important because it fuses together art and music in a super-mega-awesome show," Cheung says. "The performers are solo musicians from local bands doing their own thing. The photographers are showcasing their work that wouldn't normally be shown in a music setting. It's the kind of event that that doesn't happen very often and something neat and kind of quirky as opposed to a generic rock show."

While it's not as risky photographing say, a very hungry tiger, getting the shot you want at a live show presents its share of challenges. With so much going on, framing your picture can be rough, especially at more up-tempo shows. Every concert has a different energy, and subjects are quite unpredictable; there's really no telling if they'll have any charisma

until you see them. Now take all these problems and try to make some art.

"It can be challenging to actually have a kind of style," Gan explains. "It's easy to just take the same, vapid, boring stock photos. I think for a photographer who wants to actually make this their art in a way it can be difficult in that sense. I'm interested to see the other photographers, what their style is, if they even have a style with the subject matter and how we differ. I think it's going to be a really interesting thing."

And style is the very thing that separates men from beasts with cameras, and basic stock photography from real art. As the Edmonton music scene changes and grows, it's no wonder why these young photographers have chosen it as their subject.

A step up from walking through an art gallery with your headphones on, Rocktography plans to serve up the musical inspiration of great photography all in one healthy dose—convenient and compelling, because we all know music and art are part of a balanced hipster breakfast.

"It's really becoming more than just documenting; now it's more about art and appreciating the whole concert aspect, or the live-music aspect as something artful as well," Gan concludes.



FISHGRIWKOWSKY

LOOK INTO MY EYES Rocktography exhibits some of Edmonton's finest.

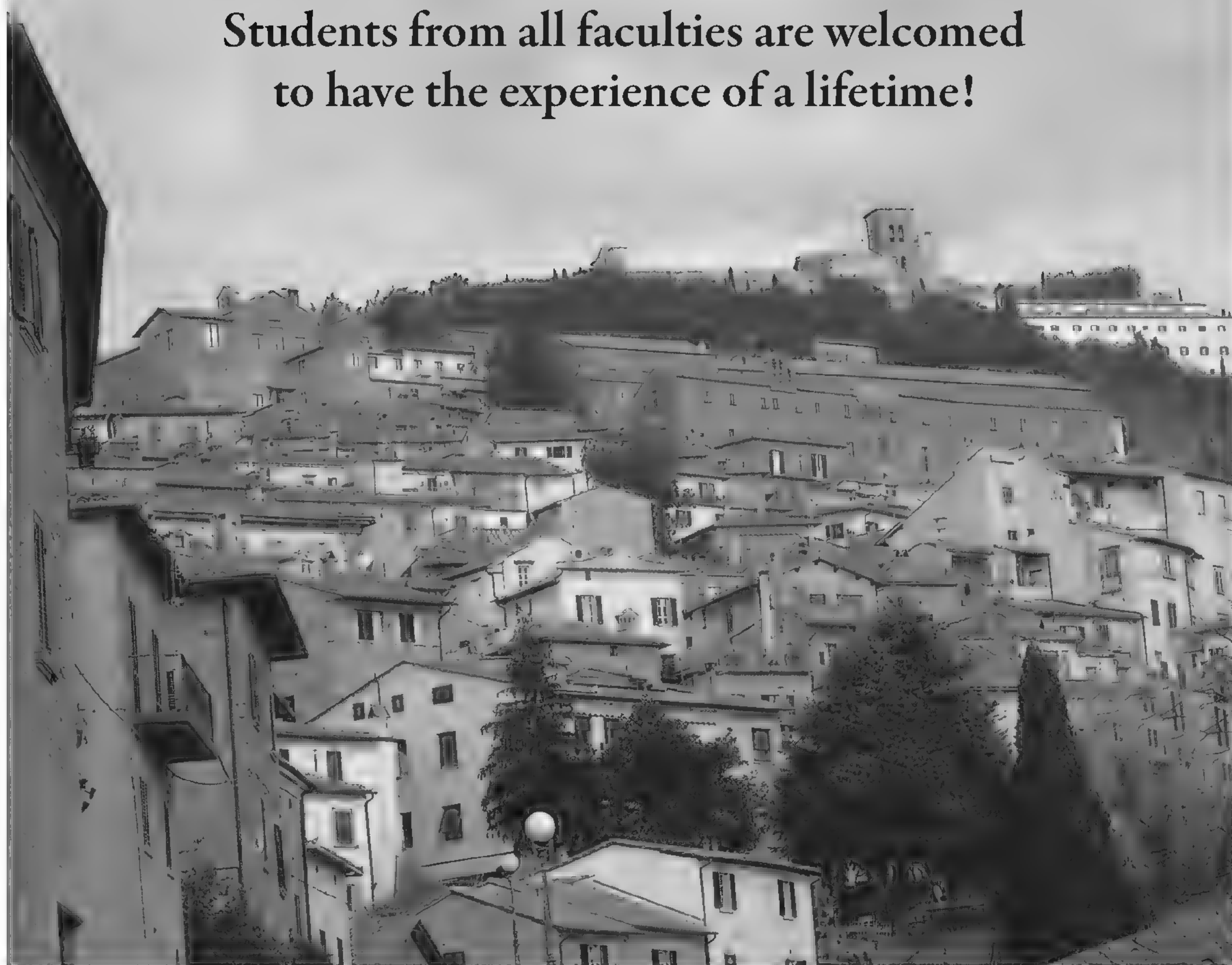
You can study in

Cortona, Italy

next Winter.

The 2008 Cortona Calendar is here! Pick up a free copy at the Faculty of Arts (6th Floor Humanities), or go to our website at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/arts/cortona.cfm

Students from all faculties are welcomed to have the experience of a lifetime!



**Transitions Rehabilitation Association
of St. Albert & District**
is looking for
Community Support Workers & Respite Workers

Requirements:

- A clear police check and criminal intervention Record Check
- Experience working with individuals with disabilities & assisting them with personal care a definite asset
- Evenings and weekend hours available immediately
- Also accepting applications for summer positions

Interested candidates should forward resumes to:

Katney Birries, Human Resources
Email: katneyo@transitions.ab.ca
Telephone: (780) 458-7371 ext. 33
Fax: (780) 460-7078

volunteer to
welcome the
world!



transitions
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT
ORIENTATION



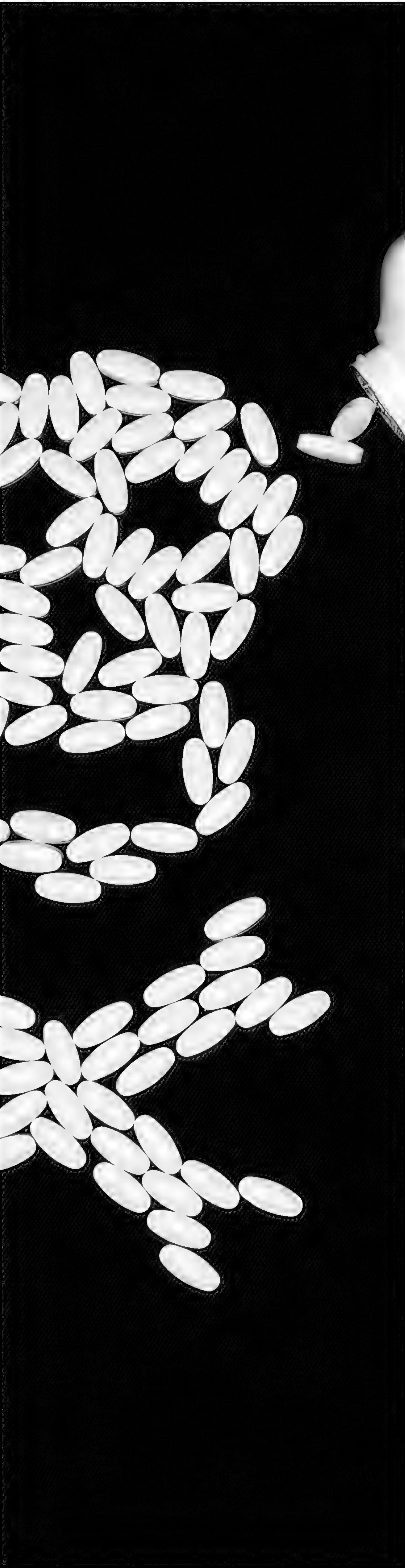
Apply now for August volunteer training
www.international.ualberta.ca/transitions



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA
INTERNATIONAL

international centre

9101 Sidewalk Level HUB • phone 780.492.2692 • fax 780.492.1134
www.international.ualberta.ca • email: international@ualberta.ca



CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go to www.campusclassifieds.ca

FOR RENT

Looking for a place to live? Check out the SU's Housing Registry! Hundreds of suites and rooms for rent. www.rentingspaces.ca

SERVICES

Sick of Softball? The Edmonton Co-ed Softball Assoc. is looking for players/teams. Inc two tiers, fast-pitch and orthodox, personal stats and player of the week packages. For more info contact Cay 235-2529 or www.ecsaleague.ca

EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

Hudson's on Campus hiring for a position please apply in person or e-mail to jarrett@hudsonstapnouse.com

Alta Care Resources is looking for caring and energetic people to work with Edmonton children and youth. Flexible schedules, free training, starts at \$15/hr, please see experience. Please call Brandi Smith 451-6040 ext 230, brandi@teus.net, www.altaresources.com

Are you looking for the perfect summer job that will earn you tons of cash and provide a flexible schedule. If so the Catering Assistant position is for you. Start now as a part time employee and work full time in the summer. We offer above average wages, bonuses, gratuities and more. We are also hiring full/part time Banquet Servers. A valid driver's license is required. Come join the many of A students already employed at A Capella Catering. Email resumes to kim@acapella.ab.ca or fax to 454.2748. Please state the position you are applying for.

Golden West Golf Course is now accepting applications for a Pro Shop, Restaurant and Grounds positions. Golf privileges with employment. Apply at 16410 137 Ave or jops@goldenwestgolf.com

Stratford YMCA Out-of-School Care program (8/15-153 Street) requires part-time Child Care Programmers for 7-9am / 3-6pm shifts, M-F. Minimum 6 hours per week. Free YMCA membership. Gain great experience working with children ages 5-12. Full-time hours available in the summer, \$10-12 per hour. Email cape@edmonton.ymca.ca or call 429-5705

EMPLOYMENT - TEMPORARY

Excellent summer employment with Landscaping Co. Bobcat Operators/Labourers for 07 season. Experience an asset but will train. Start \$13-22/hour. 780-903-6066

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Cultura Connections Institute The Learning Exchange is looking for volunteers to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) to adult newcomers to Canada. Orientation and training is provided. Morning, afternoon, and evening shifts available. Call 944-0792.

PERSONALS

It's Party Time! The Edmonton Party Line is a safe and easy way to meet new and interesting people. Ladies are free! Guys from 5 cents per minute. Ads, jokes, stories and more! Try it now! Dial 44-Party

Tired of chatting online? Try speed dating with E'gnt Minute Date on 4 April at Dante's Bistro. Age groups 18-27, 28-42, and 43-54. Register at 457-8535 or www.e'gntminutedate.ca

AVALANCHE OF PANCAKES

"I can't believe it. We've been completely cleaned out," Kendrick said as he pulled open the drawer to find nothing but a few scattered sucker wrappers. Suddenly, he heard the telltale crackle of plastic as Natalie pulled open her desk. "Hey!" he cried as he began rushing over, his pale face growing tinge with rage. "That's not how this works!"

Lookin' out the window? That's a paddlin'
Starin' at my sandals? That's a paddlin'
Not volunteering for the Gateway?

You'd better believe that's a paddlin'

Come paddle the Gateway canoe up in 3-04 SUB and show Jasper a thing or two about how the PTA's run.

THE GATEWAY
Missing the golden age of the Simpsons since 1910

Solution to The Ontario Word #3 from our 20 March, 2007 issue.

Look for the next crossword coming soon!

B	A	L	I			H	O	S	T		S	P	A	M
B	R	A	N	D		A	L	T	O		T	U	N	A
C	A	S	T	E		L	E	A	R		A	L	A	N
	T	H	E	C	O	L	O	R	P	U	R	P	L	E
			N	O	R			T	I	S				
O	V	I	D		D	O	G		D	U	P	E	D	
R	A	N		P	E	A	R			R	E	D	E	D
B	L	U	E	O	R	R	E	D	S	P	R	U	C	E
S	O	R	E	S			T	I	T	S		C	A	B
	R	E	L	I	C		A	N	I		C	E	L	T
			N	R	A			N	E	E				
O	R	A	N	G	E	Y	O	U	G	L	A	D	I	
T	A	R	A		P	E	N	S		A	S	I	D	E
I	M	A	M		E	R	I	E		N	E	V	E	R
S	A	L	E		S	S	T	S		D	E	A	R	

THE GATEWAY
Crossword

More interesting than taking
notes in class since 1910



Internet = funny pictures of cats!
www.THEGATEWAYONLINE.ca
 Less cats.
 More articles, photos and comments.



Spring and Summer Studies | 2007

Spring and Summer Studies Registration **now open!**

Learn, discover and engage...

www.registrar.ualberta/springsummer



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA

THIS MAN LOVES SHEEP.



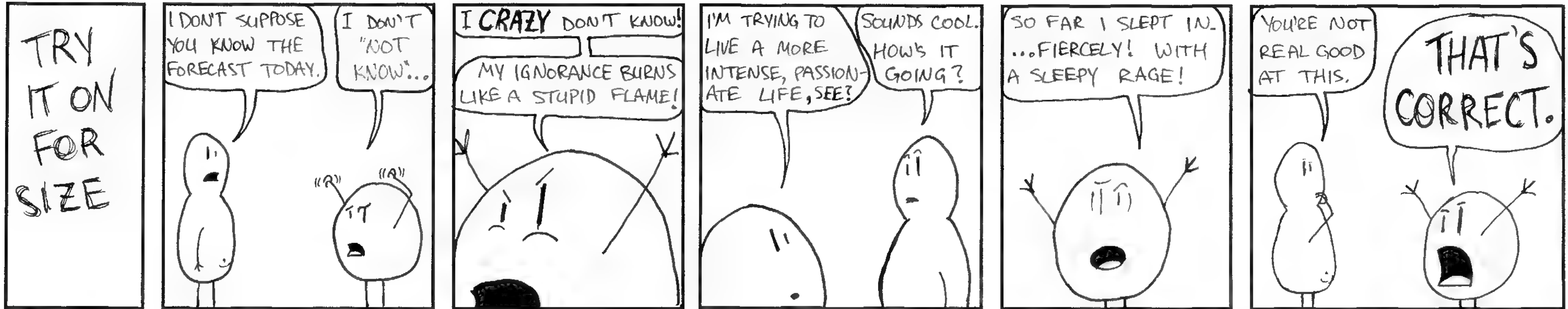
AND THAT IS COMPLETELY NORMAL. HE HAS DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO THE HEALTH AND PROTECTION OF THESE TRUSTING, SOFT, SWEET, WOOL-GIVING CREATURES. HE IS A DECENT MAN. SO JUST CALM DOWN, HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND.

KEEP *it* CLEAN.

Old Spice



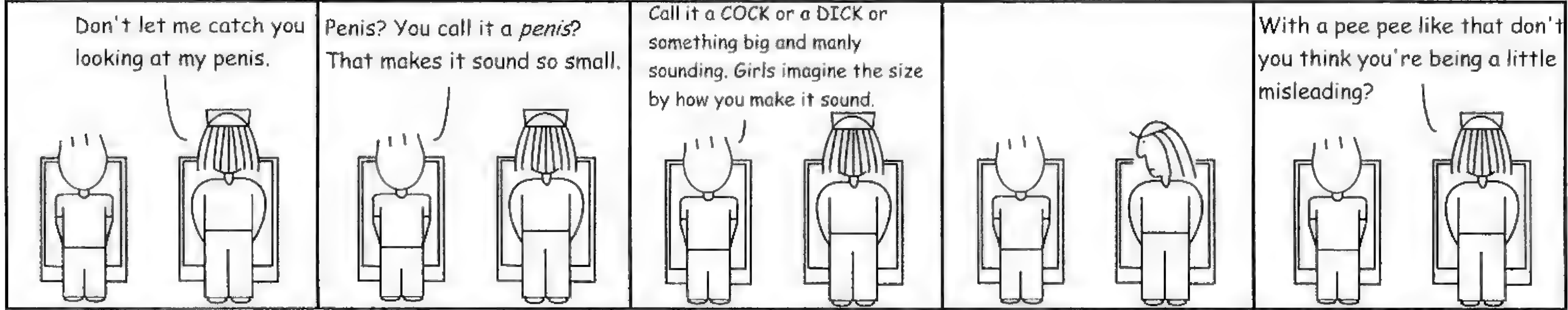
PEANUT & CIRCLE by Chris Krause



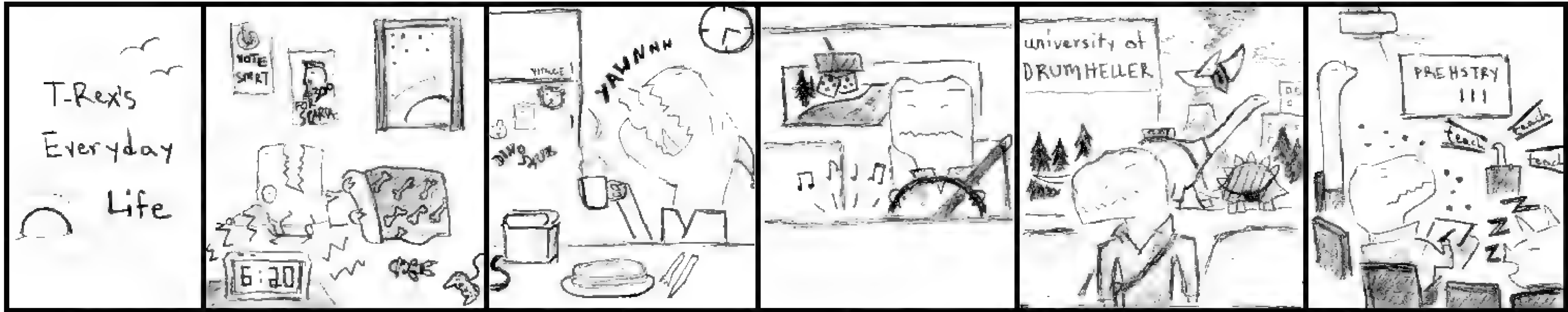
EWE OF A by Norman Lau



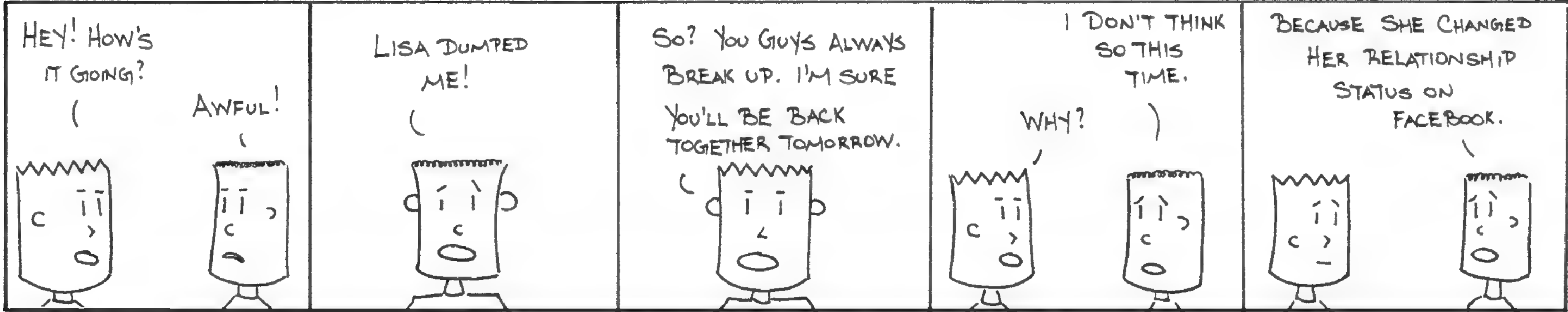
PITY MARKS by Steve Garner



DINOSAUR TOGETHER by Chris Yip



U OF WHO by Matt Lui



STICKMAN by Jonn Gagnon



THE PERPETRATORS PERPS.CA
FROM WINNIPEG
CD RELEASE

WITH **DARREK ANDERSON** THE **GUARANTEED** **SHEEPDOGS**
AND THE **FROM EDMONTON** **FROM SASKATOON**

\$10 - DOORS @ 8:00PM



SATURDAY, SEPT. 24TH @ THE POWERPLANT
www.darrekanderson.com www.myspace.com/theshsheepdogs www.perps.ca

VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS POWERPLANT

WWW.THEUNCAS.COM
WWW.MYSPACE.COM/CORDOBA
WWW.MYSPACE.COM/JUMPDASH

THE UNCAS
AND **CORDOBA**
WITH **JUMP + DASH**

FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH
AT THE POWERPLANT

DOORS AT 8PM
TICKETS \$10
AT THE DOOR
SORRY NO MINORS




www.su-venues.ca
VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS POWERPLANT

WWW.SU-VENUES.CA

THE NEW WEAPON
WITH **FEAR ZERO**,
AND **THE WELL HUNG MILLIONAIRES**

SATURDAY MARCH 31ST
AT THE POWERPLANT




TIX \$8
AT THE DOOR
DOORS AT 8
SORRY, NO MINORS

VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS POWERPLANT

toy singers
with **Colleen Brown**
and **The Corduroys**

thursday april 5th
at the powerplant



doors at 8pm
tickets at the door 8

sorry no minors
www.toysingers.com
www.colleenbrown.ca
www.myspace.com/loveofthecorduroys

VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS POWERPLANT

ROWDY MCDANGER & THE STUDENTS' UNION PRESENT

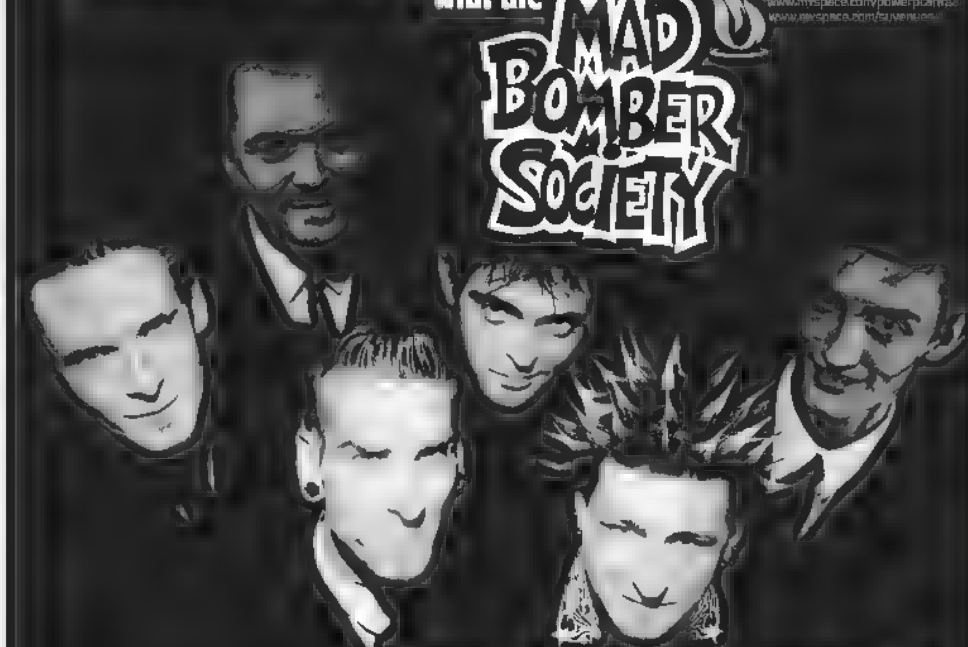
LAST DAY OF CLASSES BASH!!!
with the **MAD BOMBER SOCIETY**

AND RETROGRADE WHITFIELD

FRIDAY APRIL 13TH

UNDER 30IN ADVANCE TICKETS \$12

TIX AT BLACKTIEB MYTHICAL, FREECLOUD, LISTEN RECORDS, MEGATUNES, THE POWERPLANT, SU INFO BOOTHS.



VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS POWERPLANT


WWW.SU-VENUES.CA

GRASSROOT DEVIATION & RED RAM
WITH **DUB VULTURE**
AT THE POWERPLANT.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14TH
DOORS AT 8

TICKETS \$8 AT THE DOOR

SORRY, NO MINORS



VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS POWERPLANT

DRIVE BYE PUNCH
FAREWELL PARTY
WITH **TODAY AND AFTER**,
THIS CIVIL TWILIGHT AND GUESTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 21ST
AT THE POWERPLANT

ADVANCE TICKETS \$12
TIXES AVAILABLE AT:
BlackTieB, MyTHICAL, FREECLOUD, LISTEN RECORDS, MEGATUNES, THE POWERPLANT, SU INFO BOOTHS.

1997-2007

SORRY, NO MINORS

www.drivebyepunch.com
www.todayandafter.com
www.myspace.com/thisciviltwilight

VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS POWERPLANT

RIDLEY BENT
WITH THE **JAMES MURDOCH BAND**
AND THE **WHEAT POOL**
AT THE POWERPLANT

ADVANCE \$12
TICKETS
AVAILABLE AT BLACKTIEB MYTHICAL, LISTEN RECORDS, MEGATUNES, THE POWERPLANT, SU INFO BOOTHS, TICKETMASTER

THURSDAY, APRIL 26
DOORS AT 8



SORRY NO MINORS

www.su-venues.ca
www.ridleybent.com

VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS POWERPLANT

the student's union & trent alder presents

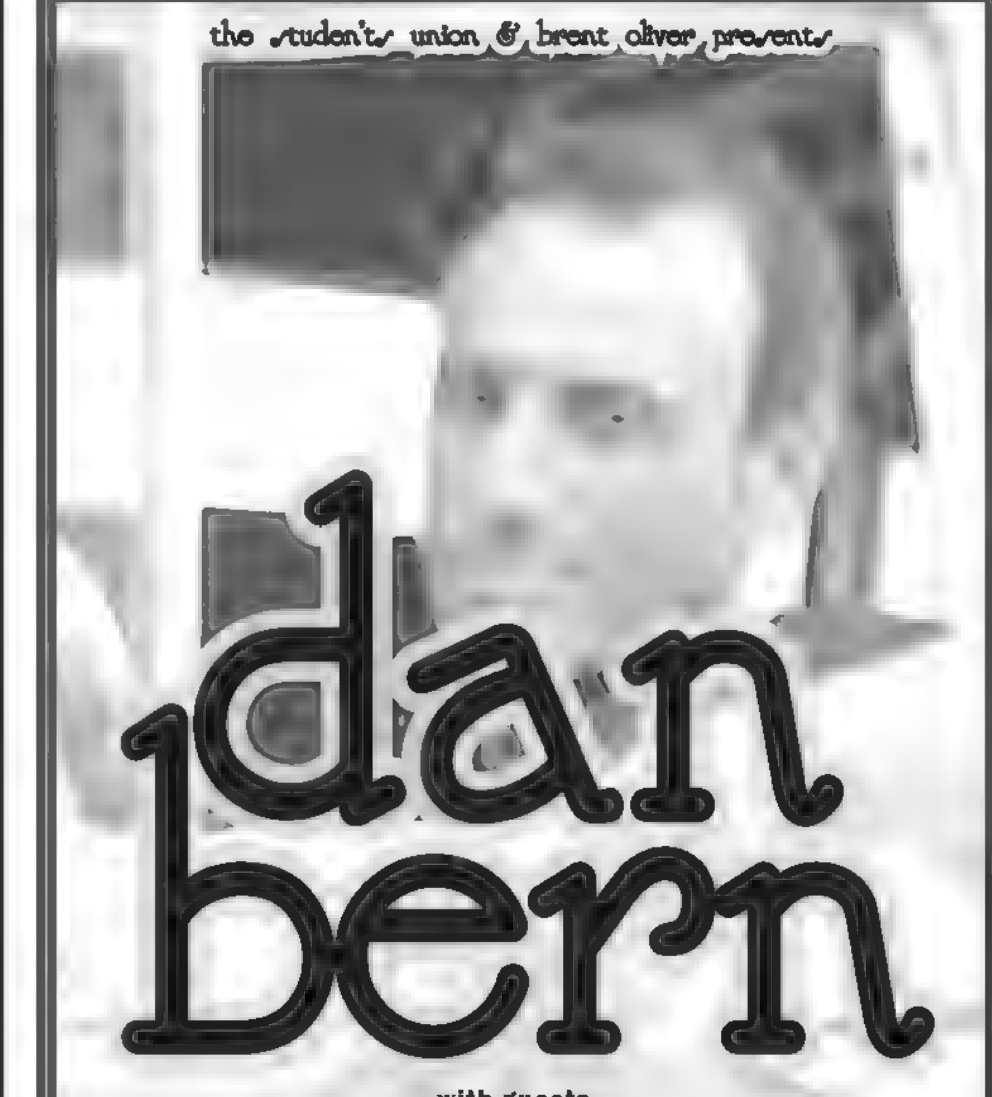
dan bern
with guests
jeff stuart & trevor tchir

friday april 27
the powerplant

Tickets available at Ticketmaster, BlackTieB, Listen & Megatunes
doors at 8pm no minors

POWERPLANT
a service of your students' union, for u of a students, staff, alumni, and their guests

VUE WEEKLY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS PRENTOLIVER



POWERPLANT
bar

www.myspace.com/powerplantbar • www.myspace.com/suvenues

A SERVICE OF YOUR STUDENTS' UNION FOR U OF A STUDENTS, STAFF, ALUMNI AND THEIR GUESTS.

www.su-venues.ca

THE GATEWAY

thursday, 22 march, 2007
volume XCVII number 42

Published since 21 november, 1910
Circulation 12 000
ISSN 0845-356X

Suite 3-04
Students' Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2J7

Telephone 780.492.5168
Fax 780.492.6665
Ad Inquiries 780.492.6700
E-mail gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca

editorialstaff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Matt Frehner
e c@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 5168

MANAGING EDITOR Chloé Fédio
manag ng@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6654

SENIOR NEWS EDITOR Natalie Climenhaga
news@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 /308

DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR Scott Lilwall
deputynews@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6664

OPINION EDITOR Adam Gaumont
op n on@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6661

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR Amanda Ash
enterta nment@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 /052

SPORTS EDITOR Paul Owen
sports@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6652

PHOTO EDITOR Krystina Sulatycki
photo@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6648

DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR Mike Kendrick
product on@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6663

ONLINE COORDINATOR Ryan Heise
on ne@gate.way, ua berta ca

businessstaff

BUSINESS MANAGER Steve Smith
b z@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6669

AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE Patrick Cziolek
sa es@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6700

AD/GRAPHIC DESIGNER Daniel Kaszor
des gn@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6647

CIRCULATION PAL Scott C Bourgeois
CIRCULATION PAL Morgan Smith
c rcu at on@gate.way, ua berta ca | 492 6669



THE GATEWAY s p b l s h e d b y t h e
Gatew a y , S t u d e n t J o u r n a l s m S o c i e t y ,
(G S J S) a s t u d e n t - r u n a u t o n o m o u s
a p o l i t i c a l n o t - f o r - p r o f i t o r g a n i z a t i o n
o p e r a t e d i n a c c o r d a n c e w i t h t h e
S o c i e t i e s A c t o f A l b e r t a

THE GATEWAY s p r o u d t o
b e a f o u n d i n g m e m b e r o f t h e
C a n a d i a n U n i v e r s i t y P r e s s



complaints

Comments' concerns, or complaints about the
Gateway's content or operations should be first sent to
the Editor-in-Chief at the address above. If the Editor-in-
Chief is unable to resolve a complaint, it may be taken
to the Gateway Student Journalism Society's Board of
Directors, and that appeals to the non-partisan
Society, OmbudsBoard. The members of the Board of
Directors and the OmbudsBoard can be reached at the
address above.

copyright

All material appearing in the Gateway bears copyright
of the creator(s) and may not be used without written
consent.

disclaimers

Opinions expressed in the pages of the Gateway are
expressly those of the author and do not necessarily
reflect those of the Gateway or the Gateway Student
Journalism Society.

Additionally, the opinions expressed in advertisements
appearing in the Gateway are those of the advertisers
and not the Gateway or the Gateway Student
Journalism Society, unless explicitly stated.

colophon

The Gateway was created using Macintosh computers,
Jmax PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon
Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe
Illustrator was used for layout, Adobe Photoshop
was used for vector images, and Adobe Photoshop
was used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat was used
to create PDF files. All content is printed on recycled
paper. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and
weights of FENCE, Joanna, Kepler, and Whitney.
The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper and we
love it dearly, though not in that way. The Gateway's
games of chance are The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion and
McB Baseball 2K7.

contributors

Ross, m g o n g t o q u i t P r o s a k o w s k i J o n n K m e c h
A y s s a P a n k A M a r a K o t o y c h E z a b e t h J a K e s e y
T a n a s u k C o n a P e r s e E z a b e t h M c M i a n P a t r i c k
R o s s D a r t i n v a d e r C o n K e g n e r A e a n d r o P a c n o n
C n r s K r a u s e N o r m a n L a u M a t t L u C h r i s t y p S t e v e
G a r n e r J o n n G a g n o n N e x t F r o s t T r e o r P h i l i p s A n d r e a
R e n f r e e T a r a S t e g t z L a u r e n S t e g t z K m S m t n
M e O t t o J o s h N a u t T o m V a g n e r S a r a n T r e t c t o r
J a r g a s

Housing crisis looms for Alberta students

CHLOÉ FÉDIO
Managing Editor

With low vacancy rates in Alberta's two biggest cities, students are increasingly relying on campus residences as a home during their university days. The University of Calgary and the University of Alberta report applications for residences are up by 28 per cent and 18 per cent respectively, compared to the same time last year.

Joel Lynn, Director Residence Services at the U of C, said that the housing shortage in Calgary has especially been a challenge for students from out of town and outside the province.

"In Calgary, there's a serious housing problem. Students are going to exercise all their options, and apply to get their names on as many lists as possible to try and secure themselves accommodations," Lynn said.

According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), high net migration in both Edmonton and Calgary has led to a jump in home prices and mortgage-carrying cost, which has put downward pressure on vacancy rates. From October 2005 to 2006, Edmonton saw the sharpest drop in average rental apartment vacancy rate, with a 3.3 per cent decrease, and while Edmonton's

vacancy sits at 1.2 per cent, in Calgary it's 0.5 per cent.

Dima Utgoff, Director of Residence Services at the U of A, said that there's discussion about building a new residence for graduate students. Space crunches on campus led to a conversion of Pembina Hall, the former graduate students' residence, into academic space in 2005.

"We have to be careful about going out and spending millions of dollars on a building where there may not be need."

DIMA UTGOFF,
DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCE SERVICES

"There's a need for a graduate student residence—I don't think there's any question," Utgoff said, adding that the U of A's new academic plan suggests there will be an increase in graduate students in the future.

Still, he explained that the Administration wants to make sure that the growth is sustainable before investing in a new structure, and that a review of U of A residences is currently underway.

"We have to be careful about going out and spending millions of dollars on a building where there may not be need," Utgoff said. "We don't want to build a residence and have it half empty."

The provincial government has set up an affordable housing task force to address the issue of low vacancy rates, but though recommendations have been made nothing has yet been instituted.

Janelle Morin, Lister Hall Students' Association Vice-President (Public Relations), was one student who presented to the province's affordable housing task force to lobby for more affordable housing for students. Lister Hall is the U of A's largest student residence, housing 1800 students.

"There's a 0.2 per cent vacancy rate around the University area, so really there's essentially no other options for students in a lot of cases," Morin said. "That's one of the most frustrating things: students don't have a choice about where they're going to live, so if residence's are not affordable, there are no other affordable options—or no other options period."

The U of A Board of Governors approved a ten per cent rent increase for the majority of its residences in January, to be effective fall 2007. LHSA President Michael Janz argued that the rent increase was unfair, pointing to the

"eight-by-eight [foot] Lister rooms."

"It's just getting ridiculous how expensive it is," Janz said. "The mandate of the residences is to provide affordable housing for students and to be able to house students that the University is trying to attract."

But Utgoff further explained that the rent increase was necessary, pointing to major projects, like the replacement of a transformer in HUB Mall, which costs \$900 000, and renovations required to the elevators in Newton place, which costs \$450 000. He added that the residence rates were fair when compared to market rates.

"We try to recognize that this, like anything else, like tuition, like textbooks, like any other supplies, is an affordability issue for students—there's no question about that," Utgoff said.

But Janz and Morin both argued that the University should lobby the provincial government to acquire more funding for residences.

Morin hopes that the Residence Hall Association, which represents the community of 4400 students who live in residence, will join forces with the University and the Students' Union to effect change.

"We'd like to launch a joint campaign, talking to government, because they're no realistic way we can expect students to pay for this," Morin concluded.

STREETERS

Numerous Nursing students recently had personal information, including GPAs, sent out over a listserv.

What would you do if your information was sent out in a similar manner?



Adam Cembrowski
Science II



Justin Asjarour
Science IV



Belal Najmeddine
Business IV



Peter Dean
Pharmacy I

If somebody sent out all my information, I'd find the person and send out their information twice as hard.

I'd sue the shit out of the school.

The first thing [I would] do is sue the school. Then, when we go to court, I'm going to find out everyone who has my information and I'm going to beat them just because they received it and didn't tell me. After that, I don't know—probably beat them up again, or something.

I'd make a complaint, probably to the Dean. I'd be outraged. I'd dig a little deep on whoever spread that information, find out some nasty info about them and post it all over the U of A.

Compiled and photographed by Steve Smith and Krystina Sulatycki



Algae could tackle CO₂: Minister

Provincial gov't brainstorms ways to combat AB's greenhouse gas emissions

TOM WAGNER
News Writer

In conjunction with Bill 3, the provincial government's new environmental bill focusing on climate change and emissions, Alberta might be looking to go green by using algae to capture carbon dioxide (CO₂).

Rob Renner, Alberta's Minister for the Environment, believes that despite our province's high emissions output, the tiny organism could, in fact, do the job.

"I was told that it's not unrealistic to think that they could scale up the production of this algae to the point where they could absorb 100 million tonnes of CO₂ a year," Renner said.

This statement follows the introduction of new technology-centered legislation by the Tories, which targets industries and businesses that emit more than 100 000 tonnes of greenhouse gases annually. Bill 3 calls on these companies to reduce their emissions intensity, the amount of greenhouse gases produced per unit of production, by twelve per cent beginning 1 July, 2007.

But while this legislation is expected to affect over 100 companies, representing almost 70 per cent of Alberta's industrial emissions, Renner admitted that most of them won't be able to meet the legislation's target by July.

If a company can't meet the twelve per cent in CO₂ reduction required by the legislation, they're given two options by the government. They can choose to either purchase "offsets" from other Alberta-based sources that have reduced their greenhouse gas production, or they can contribute \$15 per tonne above their target to a technology fund. That money would be used for the development of technologies such as carbon sequestration, which is essentially pumping CO₂ underground, or CO₂-absorbing algae.

"I was told that it's not unrealistic to think that they could scale up the production of this algae to the point where they could absorb 100 million tonnes of CO₂ a year."

**ROB RENNER,
AB ENVIRONMENT MINISTER**

However, not everyone is happy with this new legislation. David Eggen, an NDP MLA for Edmonton-Calder, voiced his concern over the use of intensity based, rather than

absolute, reduction targets, saying that as a result the bill was essentially meaningless.

"[Because Bill 3] bases its targets on intensity rather than absolute reductions, as long as an emitter is expanding and as long as the economy is growing, then CO₂ output increases," Eggen explained.

However, Renner, who advocates the technological approach to greenhouse gas reduction, predicts that scaling down industrial production in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions would spell doom for Alberta's resource-based economy.

"It's incumbent upon us to recognize that a reduction of energy production in Alberta is not going to substantially harm anyone other than Alberta," Renner said.

According to Eggen, however, the equation isn't that simple. He said that by focusing on untested and undeveloped technology instead of actual emissions reductions, the government risked lost time in the fight against global warming, as well as lost money.

"The [government's technology-centered] scheme has a surreal element to it, except for the sober and unpleasant reality that the government would waste billions of dollars on it," Eggen said. "[It's] a boondoggle that would make the gun registry seem modest."

Science journalist using scholarship to raise public awareness on climate issues

SARAR TREIT
News Writer

With the federal government's announcement of emission reduction plans last week, climate change debate has recently been getting a lot of attention. However, Edmonton's Ed Struzik contends that the scientific community has recognized the issue since the '80s.

Struzik, who has just reached the halfway mark in his one-year Atkinson Fellowship in Public Policy, is currently focusing on climate change in the Arctic. The fellowship, worth \$100 000, is granted to one Canadian journalist each year to focus on an issue of national significance.

As an established science journalist, Struzik has been following issues of global climate change and travelling to the Arctic for 30 years—experiences that he says have allowed him to see first-hand some of the rapid changes taking place in Canada's north.

"The changes are happening so fast up there and are so catastrophic in nature that it just seems like maybe most of the rest of the country is kind of oblivious to what's going on," Struzik says. "Here the effects are much more subtle, comparatively, but up there it's so obvious."

Struzik is currently focusing not only on the effects of climate change, but also on possible remedies. He said that, although reducing greenhouse gas emissions is a vital first step, more is needed.

"The idea is not only to describe what's happening, but also to come up with some solutions," he says. "A lot of experts out there have



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

TIME TO CATCH UP Struzik says public knowledge's lagging behind research.

got some ideas ... beyond simply reducing greenhouse gas emissions—there are a lot of other things we need to do to mitigate the damages," he says.

One of the goals of his fellowship will be to shape public policy in a way that catches up with the science. Struzik says that the barriers to finding solutions to the climate crisis aren't only scientific, but also largely political.

Up until very recently, we had essentially governments that paid lip service to this issue ... [an issue to which] some of the answers are pretty obvious," he says. "We can't

keep spewing all of these greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and think that nothing's going to happen."

Struzik says he hopes to be able to bridge the gap between science and public policy. He credits students at institutions like the University of Alberta for helping increase awareness about the issues of climate change over the past few years.

"There has been a new awareness at a much younger level, and it's kind of inspiring to see. [Students] are getting really worked up about it," he says. "It's that kind of enthusiasm and motion that's starting to spill over into the rest of society."

www.su-venues.ca

A SERVICE OF YOUR STUDENTS' UNION FOR U OF A STUDENTS, STAFF AND ALUMNI

HEY! new hours

RATT

- MON - WED 11 AM TO 1 AM
- LAST CALL AT MIDNIGHT
- THURS 11 AM TO 2 AM
- LAST CALL AT 1 AM
- FRI 11 AM TO 3 AM
- LAST CALL AT 2 AM
- SAT 3 PM TO 3 AM
- LAST CALL AT 2 AM

THE POWERPLANT

BAR HOURS

- THURS - FRI 11 AM TO 2 AM
- SAT 3 PM TO 2 AM

RELAXATION SPACE

- MON - WED 8 AM - 8 PM
- POWERPLANT BREAKFAST
- 8 AM TO 11 AM

powerplant dinner (menu service):

- 2 PM TO 6 PM (MON - WED)
- 2 PM TO MIDNIGHT (THURS - FRI)

powerplant coffee house

- MON TO FRI 8 AM TO 6 PM

oh...and don't forget

happy hour:

RATT >> MONDAY TO FRIDAY >> 2-6 PM

draught pint and jug specials >>>>>

powerplant >> THURS AND FRI >> 2-6 PM

>> UPCOMING @ Ratt OILER GAMES

DON'T FORGET:
RATT GIVES AWAY A PAIR OF TICKETS 1/2 HOUR BEFORE EVERY HOME GAME.
ALL PAY-PER-VIEW OILER GAMES WILL BE SHOWN AT RATT.

>> OILER GAMES:
FRIDAY, MARCH 23 7 PM
OILERS VS. COLORADO.
TICKET DRAW 630 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 8 PM
OILERS VS. NASHVILLE 8 PM
LAST TICKET DRAW OF THE YEAR AT 730 PM

>>> RATT AND MOLSON CANADIAN WILL BE GIVING AWAY A PAIR OF TICKETS TO EVERY HOME GAME. draws are made 1/2 hour before each game <<<

Molson Canadian jugs are \$9.75 during the game. Canadian bottles are \$3.

MONDAY, APRIL 2 7 PM
NCAA FINAL FOUR CHAMPIONSHIP GAME AT RATT.
SOME AMERICAN SCHOOL WILL FACE SOME OTHER AMERICAN SCHOOL. ONE WILL WIN.

POWERPLANT BUFFET

STILL GOING STRONG AT LUNCH
EVERY DAY FROM 1130AM TO 2PM

DON'T FORGET
TUESDAY IS ROAST BEEF DAY!

GREAT, HOT FOOD

Few running in this year's SU Councillor elections

Veteran councillors express concern that not enough is being done to raise awareness on campus about the importance of Students' Council—suggestions for improvement include reducing the number of elected seats and increasing training time

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

The Students' Union Executive election may be over, but with Students' Council elections taking place 22–23 March, polling stations haven't disappeared from campus just yet.

Council is the ultimate authority of the SU and consists of 50 members—including 42 elected faculty councillors positions distributed by faculty population. However, despite the importance Council plays in directing the SU, few students have signed up to run—with Arts and Law as the only faculties where there are more candidates running than there are positions to fill.

SU Chief Returning Officer Rachel Woynorowski explained that it's normal for there to be large discrepancies in the number of candidates who apply from year to year.

"In this year's election, we have fewer candidates than in last year's election simply because the amount of candidates we get tends to fluctuate on a fairly regular basis in fairly large extremes one way or another," she said.

She added that factors influencing students' desire to get involved in the SU include who else is running that year and also who had been elected to the executive.

But when asked why more students don't seem to show an interest in the SU, Board of Governors representative Chris Samuel said not enough is being done to advertise the role Council plays.

"We're not doing a good enough job of communicating the importance of Students' Council. A lot of people don't see it as a valuable, worthwhile use of their time," Samuel said. "[T]he reality is that it's a very important body that makes a lot of important decisions, but students don't hear about that."

But the number of candidates running isn't the only issue that's bothering veteran SU members. Justin Kehoe, who's served on Council three times as a science councillor and once as Vice-President (student life), said he was disappointed to see so few candidates had taken the time to fill out a biography or platform statement on the SU's webpage and noted that of those who did often

didn't show a deep understanding of how the organization operates.

"It's just one of the biggest turn-overs I've seen. I think there's five people returning, and a lot of the people [running] seem to be first- and second-year students," he said, explaining that many would-be first-time councillors might underestimate the importance of the role.

"We're not doing a good enough job of communicating the importance of Students' Council. A lot of people don't see it as a valuable, worthwhile use of their time."

**CHRIS SAMUEL,
BOARD OF GOVERNOR REP**

"It's unfortunate. On the one hand, it's the top governing body of the organization that is there to direct and oversee the Executive, but on the

other hand, a lot of people see Council as kind of an entry-level type of group where you get elected ... then you work your way up to Executive," Kehoe said.

Councillor candidates are given between \$30–\$50 to use on their campaign depending on the size of their faculty. However, despite being provided with resources, not every candidate has taken the time to make posters or do classroom speeches—a sign of apathy Kehoe said does little to improve the notoriously low voter turnout Council elections garner. Last year only 4.9 per cent of eligible voters cast ballots in the March 2006 Councillor election.

"Councillors themselves need to take themselves more seriously, take the Council more seriously, and hopefully there's some sort of culture shift that comes in line with some more physical reforms in the size of the Council and its composition," Kehoe said, adding that he believes the organization could benefit from some drastic steps, such as decreasing the number of councillors and improving the work that goes into transitioning and training new members.

Woynorowski noted that the SU does urge candidates to be active

during the campaign period but that, ultimately, they decide how much efforts they put in.

"It's completely up to the candidates what they want to do. We do encourage the candidates to all think about why they're running and to inform students why they're running," she said.

But Kehoe noted he doesn't think it's up to one person to come up with a "miracle solution" and added that despite being new, some councillors next year might have "a lot of good ideas and learn really fast."

"It [just] frustrates me as someone who spent the last four years on that Council, with all the time and effort that I've put in, still coming out realizing that the Council isn't really significantly better off in the perspective of the average student," he said.

Vacancies remaining after this election will be filled in a by-election in the fall, after which any position still empty will remain so for the year.

To view a complete list of the candidates who are running and their biographies and platforms, please see: www.su.ualberta.ca/vote.

ALSO READ OWEN ON PAGE 10

college pro PAINTERS SUMMER JOBS

COLLEGE PRO PAINTERS is presently looking for responsible / hard-working University or College students for:

Full-Time Painting Positions
May - August

No experience required,
we will train you to paint.

Positions available in your area.
If interested call 1-888-277-9787
or apply online at www.collegepro.com

change your world.

NOW RECRUITING

Have you ever wanted a career where you can make a difference in your life and the lives of others?

The Edmonton Police Service is currently looking for people with the right attitude and qualifications to join its team. If you want to play an integral part in your community – and change your world – apply today!

The Edmonton Police Service, an accredited police agency, is an internationally recognized leader in innovative policing and an equal opportunity employer.

Post Secondary Students

Don't miss this opportunity: Free Testing

Information Session: March 30, 5:00 pm

Written Examinations: March 31, 4:00 pm

Fitness Trial (P.A.R.E.): April 1, 2:00 pm (medical release required)

First time ever offered in Edmonton, don't miss the chance to see if you qualify to CHANGE YOUR WORLD

REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY, call 421-2233, or toll-free 1-866-777-0815.



Edmonton Police Service
Now Recruiting

joinEPS.ca

campusjoyride.ca



Rally on a virtual campus. Enter to win a real Mazda3. **mazda**

Harper gov't comes under fire from former PM Joe Clark

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
News Staff

Canada is in danger of losing its long-cultivated ability to punch above its weight-class on the world stage because of the Harper government's narrow view of foreign policy, according to former prime minister Joe Clark.

Clark was on campus Monday to meet with University officials and others to discuss a proposal for establishing a conference on hemispheric energy. However, the former leader of the now-defunct Progressive Conservative Party of Canada also approached the political science department about offering his views on Canada's foreign policy.

According to Clark—who held a number of portfolios in the 1980s including minister of foreign affairs for over six years under Brian Mulroney—Canada's foreign policy has been a balanced approach that has provided Canada with its influence on the international stage.

"When Canada has been most effective internationally, it has been because we pursued two priorities at the same time," Clark said. "We worked hard on our friendship with the United States, and we worked hard on an independent and innovative role in the wider world. Those are not opposite positions. They are the two sides of the Canadian coin and both must be given attention or we debase our currency."

Among the successes that Clark, a former U of A graduate, counts as having flowed from this policy is the free trade agreement that he helped negotiate with the United States, the agreement on acid rain and Canada's initial inclusion in the G7.

Clark also believes that this balanced approach has provided Canada with influence and clout in Washington. He said that this has allowed the two countries to work together on issues even when there's disagreement, and permits Canada to work multilaterally or in places around the world where American participation would cause resentment.

However, according to Clark, the Harper government has discarded this approach to foreign policy, one that had been the basis of the Canadian style for almost 60 years. In its place, Clark sees a strategy that's almost exclusively focused on good relations with the Americans. He noted that



JOSH NAULT

WHEN I WAS PM ... Joe Clark dissects the faults of the Harper Administration.

16 separate members of the Harper Cabinet visited the US in 2006, while during the same period only two ministers went to Africa, none to the Middle East, none to China, one to Haiti and none to South America.

"With the Harper government, there is a new, more deliberate insularity [in foreign policy] with the singular exception of our military engagement in Afghanistan," Clark said. "I believe that Mr Harper and his colleagues are moving deliberately away from central elements of the foreign policy that has been a key strength for Canada under both Progressive Conservative and Liberal administrations."

"Mr Harper's party, [formerly] known as the Reform Party, began self-consciously as a protest movement and it has no inherited tradition in international affairs ... moreover, their method is wedge politics, so there is scant domestic experience with brokering and embracing contesting points of view," Clark added. "These significant departures from Canada's traditional foreign policy should not be considered as rookie mistakes, but as deliberate policy."

In addition to expressing concern

over the singular focus on the US, Clark said there are three other areas of Canada's new foreign policy approach that he believes present a troubling departure from Canadian traditions. These include what he perceives as an absence of any evident priorities in dealing with the developing world, the erosion of Canada's professional Foreign Service, and the decline of the country's influence and relations with the People's Republic of China.

"The Harper government has embraced a pre-Nixonian policy towards China, deliberately distancing Canada from the emerging megapower, thereby limiting our ability to affect China's performance on human rights or on other issues," Clark said.

In addition to outlining his serious views on the waning of Canada's foreign policy, the former two-time leader of the Progressive Conservative party also kept the crowd of students and professors entertained.

"Today, as you may be aware was budget day. I try to miss budgets when I can; I had an unfortunate experience with one once," Clark quipped.

other provinces. A *Toronto Star* article, entitled "One-way Street," noted that had it not been for international immigration, Ontario would have suffered a net loss in population due to the Alberta migration.

McMillan also stated that the loss of educated people also means that these provinces are missing out on the investment they have put in to educating their emigrating residents.

"A lot of these people are coming [to Alberta] having gotten their education in other provinces. That education costs a fair amount of money. It's a fairly significant capital transfer from one province to another, and particularly to Alberta," he said. "It's sometimes a factor that isn't considered when we think about transfers of resources amongst provinces."

But one reason for the migration, explained Dr Frank Trovato, a professor of sociology at the U of A, is the expansion of "social networks" in Alberta. He said that once people move to the province

they attract more people from their communities of origin.

Trovato pointed out that the biggest reason for the migration is obviously the oil boom. With so many jobs available, people around the country will have Alberta on their minds.

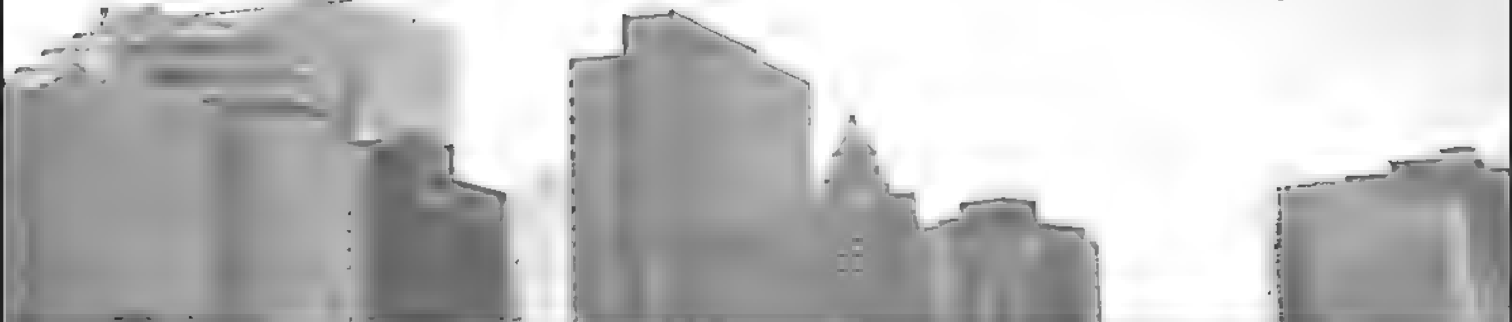
"[Someone] without a job, [who's] contemplating what to do, they are likely to think [let's] move to Alberta because there are jobs [there] and the wages are good," Trovato said.

With the migration being chiefly driven by oil, Dr Andre Plourde, U of A professor and chair of the economics department, says that the increased immigration into the province will continue to drive up the cost of living, especially when it comes to real estate.

"Housing prices are going to start to become more of an issue as people start thinking about this. Housing prices have grown much faster in Alberta, and especially Calgary and Edmonton, than [in] other Canadian cities," Plourde said.

Victor Vargas, News Staff

Take charge of your career
with our online real estate
education programs



www.realestate.ubc.ca
Real Estate Division
Sauder School of Business, UBC
toll-free: 1.877.775.7733
ubcinfo@realestate.sauder.ubc.ca

Diploma Program in Urban Land Economics

Gain an in-depth understanding of the economic, legal, and financial principles that underlie the real estate industry. This nationally recognized online credit program is designed for both practitioners and for highly motivated people seeking to join the industry.

Post-Graduate Certificate in Real Property Valuation

Leading to the Appraisal Institute of Canada's AACI designation, this online program provides business school graduates with an accelerated path to a career in the property valuation profession.

Early Registration Deadlines

Summer Term I: April 15, 2007
Winter Term I: July 15, 2007

Registrations and completed admissions applications received by the early registration deadlines are eligible for a **\$50 discount**.



SAUDER
School of Business

Opening Worlds

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

NEWS BRIEF

PEOPLE LEAVING OTHER PROVINCES LURED BY ALBERTA'S OIL BOOM

According to the Statistics Canada 2006 census, Alberta's population soared above the three million mark with an unprecedented growth rate of 10.6 per cent—double the national average. But this increase isn't just coming from international immigration; provinces such as Ontario and Saskatchewan are finding their residents choosing the "Alberta Advantage."

"These people are coming and are university educated, or have trade skills—a large number of them anyways, because that's what the demand is for welders and that type of thing," said Dr Melville McMillan, an economics professor at the University of Alberta.

Ontario has lost about 30 000 people to Alberta between 2001-06 and, according to StatsCan, they aren't being replenished by emigration from



Fact: A rhinoceros will produce around 60 pounds of dung every single day.

Fact: Luckily, they do it nowhere near Gateway News meetings, held Fridays at 3pm in 3-04 SUB.

news@gateway.ualberta.ca

GATEWAY NEWS
Uncomfortable around nature since 1910

Privacy Office investigates disclosure

GRADES • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Amanda Tsui, a representative for Nursing on Students' Council and a member of the Nursing Undergraduate Association, said that other students might suffer academically because of the incident.

"Our faculty is pretty competitive. If you had access that kind of information and you knew that so-and-so was competing against you was looking for a placement on a particular unit, [the grades] might be of interest to you," Tsui said. "[But] it's a private matter. They're your grades."

Janet Colter, Assistant Dean of Administration for the Faculty of Nursing, said that they're looking into the matter. She declined further comment until more information was gathered.

"We're conducting a very thorough investigation and working with Harry Davis [the University's Privacy Officer]. We're looking into [what happened], and we want the answers to these questions before we give any further comment," Colter said.

Nelda Hinds, with the U of A's information and privacy office, confirmed that an inquiry was taking place. She said that more information would be available as early as next week.

Amanda Henry, Vice-President

(Academic) for the Students' Union, said that she's working with both the NUA and the faculty on the issue. She said that not much could be done until the investigation provides information.

"Right now, we just want to make sure that the needs of nursing undergraduate students are being looked after," Henry said.

"I would like a formal apology for this."

AMANDA TSUI,
NURSING COUNCILLOR

She added that she was impressed with the speed that the matter went under investigation.

"By the time I heard about it, the investigation had begun," she said. "I think it shows how seriously the University takes student privacy."

Tsui added that all indications show that the e-mail was sent out as an honest mistake. The employee that sent the attachment to the mailing list followed up the message less than a half hour later, asking students to delete the original e-mail without opening the attachment.

"I feel ill as I do recognize [the] confidentiality implications," read

the follow-up message.

Another e-mail with a similar request to delete the attachment was sent out an hour later.

While Tsui acknowledges that honest mistakes do happen, she said that the faculty Administration should have better security measures to make sure that sensitive information like grades and student IDs are properly protected.

"I was really surprised that there was no password [protection] on that Excel file, or that the names of the students would be right there beside the ID numbers," she said.

She added that the reaction to the news within the program has been strong, and that the Administration should be more open in what is being done as a response to the incident.

"People in my classes were appalled," she said. "I would like a formal apology for this."

And Harding was concerned that the faculty hasn't adequately informed students of what happened or warned those whose grades were made public.

"These are the people who have been teaching me the last four years about confidentiality and professionalism, so it seems that they've really dropped the ball on this one," Harding said.

Study links vitamin use to higher mortality rates

KATE REDFERN
News Writer

Many students, in their quest for good nutrition but lacking the time to eat properly, may at some point turn to vitamins to supplement their diet. However, according to a new study from the Copenhagen University Hospital, taking certain vitamins can be fatal.

The research assessed the effects of fat-soluble vitamins, like vitamins A, E and beta carotene. The study suggests that the mortality rate of populations who take these vitamins can increase by up to 16 per cent.

But University of Alberta professor emeritus Tapan Basu deems the study misleading and says that claims of mortality from vitamin toxicity are unfounded.

"Vitamin E accumulates throughout the body, wherever there is fat," he said. "Vitamin E toxicity is rare."

He added that Vitamins A and D, which are stored in the liver, have the potential for toxicity, but even that's rare. If a child took a whole bottle of pills, for instance, then a problem could arise, but normal use poses little risk.

But while he said the Danish study may be slightly dramatic, he noted there are still valid risks associated with taking vitamin supplements. Basu warned that taking too many vitamins might give you symptoms associated with not getting enough.

He explained that Vitamins A and E are antioxidants—they eliminate potentially harmful free radicals (unpaired electrons) from the body. Taking too much vitamin A and E, however, turns them into oxidants, which can have the opposite effect. Vitamin A can also affect bone growth if taken in high doses.

Basu recommended that healthy students stay away from vitamin supplements, explaining that by following the Canada Food Guide, healthy individuals get all the vitamins and minerals they need. However, he advises that elderly people, people who are dieting, pregnant women, and those with chronic illnesses or taking medication, take proper supplements.

He said pregnant women also need such a large amount of vitamins to supply both themselves and their growing baby that supplements high in folic acid are recommended.



Fact: In April, StatsCan reported that Canadians paid approximately \$11.18 in income tax for every \$100 earned. As well, they found that 66 per cent of those charged with tax evasion were convicted.

Fact: Writing for Gateway News is considered a volunteer position, and might be used to beg for leniency when appearing before a federal judge.

GATEWAY NEWS
Throwing ourselves on the mercy of
the court since 1910

Working this summer?
Let employment standards work for you.

- ✓ Overtime is paid if your shift is longer than 8 hours
- ✓ A workday cannot be more than 12 hours, including breaks
- ✓ A break is required if your shift is longer than 5 hours
- ✓ The minimum wage is \$7.00 per hour
- ✓ Workers are guaranteed 3 hours of minimum wage for short shifts

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS, go to
www.employment.gov.ab.ca/employmentstandards
or call toll-free 310-0000 and ask for employment
standards (to call direct dial (780) 427-3731).

Alberta

Yukon College reopen to students

The school was closed for over two weeks to house athletes during the Canada Winter Games that spurred the construction of a new residence

CHLOÉ FEDIO
CUP Alberta and Northern Bureau Chief

Students from Yukon College returned from an unusually long reading break 12 March, after a partnership with the Canada Winter Games (CWG) transformed the school into the athletes' village. It was the first time the event, first held in 1967 and occurring every two years, took place north of the 60th parallel.

As a result, 650 full-time students were shut out of their school as of 4pm 21 February. In their place were 3600 athletes competing in the 2007 CWG, which ran from 23 February until 10 March.

Spence Hill, communications officer for Yukon College, said the atmosphere at the College changed as studies were put on hold to host the Games and the many athletes the event brought.

"Disruptive? Yes," Hill said of the college's two-and-a-half week closure.

"We have not heard disgruntlement, but then again we haven't debriefed as a College yet," she added.

The College's academic calendar was adjusted, with earlier start dates in August 2006 and January 2007, meaning students weren't cheated out of any class time. And since part of the Games fell during reading

week, Hill said courses weren't upset too much.

She explained that since the library was transformed into a dining hall, it was closed almost a week before the college shut its doors to students.

"We have not heard disgruntlement, but then again we haven't debriefed as a college yet."

SPENCE HILL,
YUKON COLLEGE

"Everything had to be moved out of the library," she said, explaining that 3000 boxes of books, 2200 shelves and 247 upright units were moved out of the space.

During the Games, students—including those living in the campus residence, which is adjacent to the main college building—didn't have access to Yukon College.

"I'm sure if you talk to the students in residence they would say it was a pain in the ass having to walk around the building, but given that the College is benefiting from the Games by acquiring a whole new residence, it's a fairly

strong trade off," Hill said.

Sunny Patch, communications officer for the 2007 Canada Winter Games, said existing residences are usually used to accommodate athletes; however, given that the residence was occupied by students for the school term, two new buildings were constructed to house the athletes.

The Yukon government invested in the new structures, which were lent to the CWG during the event. One of the buildings will be a new residence for students with families, while the other will be public housing.

Hill explained that students with families are "a dominant reality" among Yukon College students, whose average age is 32. She said that there were only 61 single-residence rooms and eight family apartments prior to the Games, but the new residence will add 24 two- and three-bedroom units.

Hill described how the college came alive as it hosted two sets of competitors from across the country—1800 athletes each week.

"To have three times the number of bodies in the college than we usually have was exciting, energizing, a little overwhelming for those of us that are used to a fairly quiet building," Hill said.

Alibi Network helps its clients create a perfect lie

LYNSEY KITCHING
The Brock Press

Ever wanted to get out of work without a hassle, escape from an awkward date, carry on an affair with no chance of being detected by your significant other, or hide from debt collectors? Now you can go ahead with your dirty deeds with the assistance of the Alibi Network, which aims to help you deceive others.

Mike Demarco, Vice-President of Marketing for the Alibi Network, said the company is like a consulting service.

"Our services vary across the board based on each client. What I can do is sit and find out about your situation, the people involved and what you are hoping to accomplish and custom tailor an alibi for you," Demarco said. "I'm in a unique industry and my market is everybody, in other words everybody has lied. Everybody is a potential client."

Services that the US-based company offer include a fake hotel, complete with a 24-hour receptionist, a telephone service that can make it seem as if you are calling from anywhere in the world, an escape-a-date service and customized alibis for people involved in discrete relationships.

"Our clients are exceptionally happy, but of course [there are] Bible thumpers out there and puritans who don't necessarily like what we do ... I find that funny," Demarco said.

Despite questions about the morality of the Alibi Network, Demarco stands by the service

"Everybody has told a lie," he said, noting that, despite criticism from some, there seems to be no shortage of demand.

"For every death threat and negative piece of e-mail ... we get about 17 job inquiries so I don't know what that

says, but I find it interesting"

Along with the initial membership fee, Demarco explained that prices range from \$75 for a simple "rescue me from this mind-numbing date" request, or up to \$175 for the virtual seminar/conference/training, which is the most elaborate option. It includes fake hotel confirmations, an airplane e-ticket, an event itinerary and even a certificate of completion delivered right to your doorstep a few weeks later.

"I'm in a unique industry and my market is everybody, in other words everybody has lied. Everybody is a potential client."

MIKE DEMARCO,
ALIBI NETWORK

Clients, Demarco said, are evenly split between men and women, and range in age from between 24–62 years old.

Jonah Butovsky, a sociology professor at Brock University in St Catharines, Ontario, doesn't feel that the business fosters deception.

"I don't think people lie and cheat more than they did before this service existed," he said.

However, the fact that lying has become something that can be bought or produced for the market is more of a concern.

"The only thing that would bug me is making everything a product that you can buy and sell, but that is the nature of the system that we live in," he said. "If there is a market for it then someone will produce it—it is commercializing what has already existed."

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEF

MCGILL STUDENT CALLS FOR NEW
DISABILITY STUDIES PROGRAM

MONTREAL (CUP)—Joan Wolforth is campaigning for a disability studies program at McGill University—but it hasn't been easy.

Wolforth, Director of the McGill Office for Students with Disabilities, has as of yet been unsuccessfully seeking a sponsor among the University's senior academics to create a curriculum on disability studies. She said that the biggest obstacle she faced over the last 18 months hasn't been a lack of interest, but a lack of awareness as to how an interdisciplinary degree might be structured.

"There is an opportunity for McGill to develop and play a community and academic role, but the group working towards this could not persuade [McGill] that it was the right direction," Wolforth said. "There are students who are interested but there is nowhere for them here."

Although the University isn't opposed to the program, there's concern about how it might strain the institutions already stretched resources, according to Deputy Provost Morton Mendelson.

"We focus where we can excel—no university can offer courses in everything," Mendelson said. "There is only so much energy and money that we can extend ... and we have to make sure that we provide the necessary services to faculty, staff and students with disabilities."

Although McGill lacks a program specifically dedicated to disability scholarship, disability issues are appearing in research and in education and psychology courses. However, Wolforth said that disability studies must be seen as an interdisciplinary degree in its own right.

"Disability studies has a very specific philosophical approach," Wolforth explained. "Just because we might be doing research in disability issues doesn't mean that we have [the requisite] sympathy, because it could be investigated from a medical rather than a social approach."

Jennifer Markowitz, the McGill Daily

Experience of a Lifetime

** Overseas Job Guaranteed*



TEACH ENGLISH OVERSEAS

Free Info Seminar

Tues. @ 7pm
7712-104 Street
**Edmonton-based*



(780) 438 5704
globaltesol.com


february

featured

STUDENT GROUP

Amnesty International, UofA Chapter

www.ualberta.ca/~aiuofa/
E-mail: aiuofa@ualberta.ca
Phone: 915-1858
Office: 040P




Year Established: 10/09/1999
Membership: 30


Purpose of the Group:

Our mandate is to work toward Amnesty International's vision of a world where everyone enjoys the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards. We work on behalf of those suffering from grave human rights abuses.

This year our group hosted a panel discussion on business and human rights, organized a 24 Hour Write-A-Thon, supported the Friends of the Lubicon in pushing for a fair settlement for the Lubicon Cree Nation of Northern Alberta, assisted in Make Poverty History events, hosted a panel discussion on violence against Indigenous women, tabled for International Women's Day to promote women's rights, and more. "Get Up! Stand Up!" our annual benefit concert and our major fundraiser is only days away.



FOR INFORMATION ON THE
OVER 350 STUDENT GROUPS
ON CAMPUS CHECK OUT:
WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/STUDENTGROUPS





KRYSTINA SULATYCKI (LEFT), JASON CHIU (RIGHT)

Critics debate Tory budget and its plan for postsecondary

Despite large windfalls for Canada's postsecondary institutions, Liberal and NDP critics charge that the government could do more for individual students

NADYA BELL
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP)—The federal Conservative Party's budget released on 19 March, titled *Aspire*, calls for \$19.7 billion in spending over the next two years and provides many changes to the way that postsecondary education is funded.

However, the equalization program is the largest and most talked-about section of the budget, with a complex agreement allowing each province more choice in determining how much money it gets from the federal government. The program is worth \$39 billion over the next seven years, including \$12.7 billion next year.

"Through this budget, we are delivering a historic plan worth over \$39 billion in additional funding to restore fiscal balance in Canada," said Finance Minister Jim Flaherty in the budget speech.

Bloc Québécois leader Gilles Duceppe is the only federal leader who says he will support the budget, stating that the equalization program is sufficient for Québec. The Liberals and NDP both oppose the budget.

Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion said that the budget might provide additional support to universities, but it doesn't do anything to help students.

Denise Savoie, the NDP's education critic, said that more need to be done to ensure that money dedicated to postsecondary education actually reaches universities. No matter how much the federal government tries to control where the money goes, in the end, Savoie said that an agreement must be made by the provinces.

"There is so much room to fudge, because if it's not a dedicated transfer we don't know where it is going," Savoie said.

Universities, in particular, will benefit from a number of different measures announced in this budget, such as more funding through the provinces and extra grants for research councils.

The budget calls for raising the Canada Social Transfer (CST), a program that provides funds to the provinces for postsecondary education and early development programs. The transfer will increase by \$1 billion, to a total of \$9.5 billion.

The new CST funding, which is linked to population, will mean that provinces with many universities, like Ontario, will receive a larger slice of the pie. The budget also recommends that the CST increase by three per cent annually.

With the CST, 25 per cent of the money given to each province is earmarked for postsecondary education—\$2.4 billion in total.

Phillippe Ouellette, director of Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, says showing exactly how much federal money the provinces should spend on their universities will make the system much more accountable.

"Now students can really point the finger at provinces if tuition goes up," Ouellette said. "The dedicated transfer

[program] is a kind of a macro issue, it's providing reliable transparent funding for provinces, which is going to force them to improve postsecondary education for students.

"It's kind of a couple steps away from helping students," he continued. "But this is one of the major problems in postsecondary education—lack of accountability."

This sentiment was echoed by Amanda Aziz, national chairwoman of the Canadian Federation of Students.

"I think it's a positive first step but there is still a lot of work that needs to be done in terms of making sure that money reaches students. The budget was very silent on issues of a national grants system for students."

A further jump of \$800 million in university funding is planned for next year under the CST, following discussions with the provinces on how to make the funding accountable.

However, future spending for universities depends on the current minority government staying in power.

Despite the increased money for universities, critics say that there's very little in the budget for students themselves.

The budget offers a \$500 tax benefit for Canadians who make between \$3000 and \$21 000. While most university students would fit into this category, the program excludes those taking classes full-time.

Following the speech, NDP Leader Jack Layton said he couldn't support a budget that doesn't provide more for students.

"Despite new funding for postsecondary education, working- and middle-class families will pay higher tuition fees and go further into debt for university and training," Layton said outside the House of Commons.

The government is increasing support for two education savings schemes: the Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) and the Canada Education Savings Grant.

The amount that people can pay annually into the subsidized savings plans is being increased. The RESP plan is set to receive \$15 million in funding next year.

But Don Drummond, chief economist with the TD Bank Financial Group, said he finds most people who benefit from these plans make over \$70 000 a year.

"I think it's sort of perverse as a program," Drummond said. "People are not aware of it until they see a tax planner—but at the banks we find only higher-income people can afford [RESPs]."

The new budget does give a large boost to Canada's research sector. A number of research funds and initiatives are being increased funding in this budget, tallying up to \$9.2 billion total investment in science and technology. The Canada Foundation for Innovation is getting more money, as is Genome Canada and the Network of Centres of Excellence.

Universities will also see an increase in funding to a program that helps to cover the indirect costs of research, such as laboratory equipment and infrastructure. Flaherty said in his speech that funding for research would improve Canada's competitiveness.

FISCAL FACTS

- The new federal budget sets out over \$8.4 billion for postsecondary education over the next year. The money will be provided through federal-provincial transfers and direct payments.

- Starting in 2008, the new budget will provide \$500 million a year to train people to enter the labour market.

- \$34 million will be set aside over the next two years to allow foreign students educated in Canada, as well as skilled foreign workers, achieve permanent resident status. Additionally, \$51 million will be invested in the Temporary Foreign Worker Program within the same period.

- \$2 million is earmarked to promote Canada's international education programs to talented students from other parts of the world.

- Foreign students recently graduated from Canadian universities will be allowed to apply for citizenship without leaving the country. The budget provides more money to deal with the 25 000 applications expected with this change.

- The Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership will see an additional \$105 million worth of funding over the next five years.

- The budget will create 1000 new scholarships for graduates, and will be available through the Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The new scholarships award as much as \$17 500 and \$35 000 a year for master's and doctoral students, respectively.

- The Canada Foundation for Innovation will receive a \$510 million.

- \$85 million a year will be awarded through grants for research dealing in the health sciences, energy, the environment, business, finance and information/communication technologies.

- Genome Canada will come away with an extra \$100 million.

- CANARIE Inc, which operates as not-for-profit network that makes it easier for universities, hospitals and other labs to cooperate on research, both in the country and internationally, will get \$120 million.

- The limit of \$4000 a year that one can contribute to the Registered Education Savings Plan will no longer exist. As well, the total lifetime cap for investment was raised by \$8000, to \$50 000.

- The maximum Canada Education Savings Grant allowed every year will also increase, from \$400 to \$500.

- The budget launches a review of the Canada Student Loan program, which could lead to changes in student financing in the future.

- Total tax credits for students in this budget are \$1.7 billion, including previously announced programs such as the textbook tax credits.

- Students who want summer work may find it easier to get a job next summer, with \$5 million announced for student internships in museums. This funding will restore cuts made to the Summer Career Placement program last fall. The cuts were reduced from \$55 million to \$11.6 million a few weeks ago.

Students' Union

Employment Opportunities - Associate Director Positions



Application Deadline: 5:00pm, Friday, March 30, 2007.
Please submit completed application forms to 2-900 SUB.

Application Forms: Application forms are available at 2-900 SUB, all Students' Union Information Booths, and online at www.su.ualberta.ca.

Detailed job descriptions are available at 2-900 SUB

- Important Instructions:**
- Please submit only single sided documents
 - Please be available for the noted interview times
 - Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid the Students' Union Fees
 - Please note: We thank all applicants, however, ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED.

InfoLink: Academic and Information Services

Operations Coordinator (2 Positions)

Resources Coordinator (1 Position)

Term: May 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008
Hours: May 1, 2007 – August 31, 2007 (35 hours/week)
September 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008 (25 hours/week)
Remuneration: May 1, 2007 – August 31, 2007 (\$1302/month)
September 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008 (\$1066/month)

Operations Coordinator Description: The Operations Coordinators at Information Services/ Academic Guidance Centre are responsible to the Manager and will perform the following duties including, but not limited to: handling and reconciling all cash, debit and credit card transactions from the main office and four satellite information desks; distribution of tickets for campus events as well as ETS bus passes and bus tickets.

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11 starting at 4:30pm

Resources Coordinator Description: The resource coordinator is responsible for managing and updating all registries and online listings including the housing registry, tutor listings, used books, volunteer opportunities, exam registry, and ride sharing opportunities. The resource coordinator is highly involved in service specific projects relating to Academics, Volunteer Fair and Landlord and Tenant Advisory Board session.

Interviews Scheduled for Wednesday, April 11 starting at 4:30pm

Safewalk – Associate Director

Term: August 15, 2007 – April 30, 2008
Hours: 20 hours/week
Remuneration: \$335 - August
\$670 - September to April

Description: The AD is responsible for the technical component of the service, upkeep and maintenance of equipment, providing supplemental training for dispatch volunteers and other duties as outlined in the employment contract and as may be specified by time to time by the Director of Safewalk.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, starting at 4:00pm.

Centre For Student Development – Administrative Coordinator

Term: May 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008
Hours: May 1, 2007 – August 31, 2007 (35 hours/wk)
September 1 – April 30, 2008 (25 hours/week)
Remuneration: May 1, 2007 – August 31, 2007 (\$1302/month)
September 1, 2007 - April 30, 2008 (\$1066/month)

Description: The main duty of the AC is liaising with the public for Orientation 2007 and Campus Ambassadors, as well as coordinating registrations and campus tours, booking rooms, and providing support for all CSD programs. Expertise in the following areas would be considered assets: database experience, working with the public, some office administrative experience and an understanding of the programs offered through the CSD.

Interview schedule to be announced.

Associate Director – ECOS

Term: May 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008
Hours: 10 hours/week
Remuneration: \$342/month

Description: The ECOS Associate Director will perform the following duties including but not limited to; the managing and coordination of ECOS volunteers, providing assistance in the research, development, and facilitation of the ECOS projects. In addition, the ECOS Associate Director will work on specific projects at the direction of the ECOS Director.

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 12, starting at 7:00pm.

Campus Campaigns Coordinator (Advocacy Department)

Term: July 1, 2007 - Feb 28, 2008
Hours: 20 hours/week
Remuneration: \$1,000/mo (under review)

This is an event planning, recruiting and outreach position housed within the SU's advocacy department. Operating under the supervision of the Advocacy Director, the CCC spearheads the campus presence for various campaigns initiated by the executive committee.

Interview schedule to be announced.

Campus Ambassador Coordinator

Term: May 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008
Hours: May 1, 2007 – August 31, 2007 (35 hours/week)
September 1 – April 30, 2008 (25 hours/week)
Remuneration: May 1, 2007 – August 31, 2007 (\$1302/month)
September 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008 (\$1066/month)

Description: The CAC is responsible for coordinating and marketing the Campus Ambassador Program including all campus tours and First Year Initiative student for a day program.

Responsibilities also include recruitment and training of all volunteer tour guides and First Year Initiative mentors. On a daily basis the CAC is responsible for booking tours with interested parties, and ensuring that tours booked through their office as well as the Registrar and Student Awards are assigned a Campus Ambassador tour guide.

Interview schedule to be announced.

Associate Director – Student Group Services

Term: August 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008
Hours: August 1 – 31, 2007 & April 1 – 30, 2008 (10 hours/week)
September 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008 (20 hours/week)
Remuneration: August 1 – 31, 2007 & April 1 – 30, 2008 (\$343/month)
September 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008 (\$687/month)

Description: The Student Group Services Associate Director is responsible to the Student Group Services Director and assists in promoting cooperation and coordination among Student Groups. This individual will also aid in the daily administrative operations of the Student Group Services office including, but not limited to the regular updating of the Student Group Services Database, updating the service website, and assisting with the registration and granting processes.

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 12, starting at 4:30pm.

Student Distress Centre – Team Leader (2 Positions available)

Term: August 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008
Hours: 10 hours/week
Remuneration: \$342/month

Description: The SDC Team Leaders are responsible to the SDC Director and works closely with the Director in overseeing the organization and operations of SDC. While sharing many similar duties such as interviewing, training and appreciating volunteers, there are individual responsibilities allocated to each Team Leader. One Team leader is responsible for volunteer scheduling and resource library management, and the other is responsible for updating call/drop-in statistics and organizing education and awareness booths. In your cover letter for these positions please indicate which position you are most interested in.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, starting at 7:00pm.

University Policy and Information Officer (Advocacy Department)

Term: May 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008
Hours: 25 hours/week (may be FT for summer pending grants)
Remuneration: \$1,181.83/mo (under review)

This is a research, analysis, record keeping and strategy position within the SU's advocacy department, which together with the other members of the department supports the university relations, media relations and campus communications initiatives of the executive committee. The UPIO reports to the Advocacy Director.

Interviews scheduled for Thursday April 5 starting at 1:00pm

External Policy and Information Officer (Advocacy Department)

Term: May 1, 2007 - April 30, 2008
Hours: 25 hours/week (may be FT for summer pending grants)
Remuneration: \$1,181.83/mo (under review)

This is a research, record keeping and strategy position within the SU's advocacy department, which together with the other members of the department supports the government relations, media relations and campus communications initiatives of the executive committee. The EPIO reports to the Advocacy Director.

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday April 4 starting at 2:00pm

ALL SALARIES CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW